



ExaSAN A12S2-PS

User Guide

Support Host Bus Adapter:

- *PCIe 2.0: Z1M-G2*

Support Host Convertor:

- *Thunderbolt2.0 to PCIe2.0: C1M-G2*

Support Switch System:

- *PCIe 2.0: SW08-Q4, SW16, SWF16*

Accusys Storage Ltd.,

Version: V1.8





ExaSAN
PCIe Storage & Switches

PREFACE

Notice

The product features and specifications described in this guide are subject to change without notice.

The manufacturer shall not be liable for any damage, or the loss of information resulting from the performance or use of the information contained herein.

About This Guide

Congratulations on your purchase of the ExaSAN (pronounced X-sa-SAN) A12S2-PS, a revolutionary high bandwidth streaming rack mounted storage system, specifically designed for all high-end post production storage. It delivers stability, exceptional performance, and scalable capacity at a very affordable ownership cost and requires only a low maintenance budget.

This guide contains instructions for installing and using the ExaSAN A12S2-PS system and RAID (Redundant Array of Independent Disks) technologies and RAIDGuard X (ExaSAN's RAID management software).

If you are new to RAID and RAIDGuard X, this guide will help you become familiar with these technologies, and assist you in setting up and using RAID on the A12S2-PS. If you are already familiar with these technologies, use this guide as a reference for implementing your ExaSAN A12S2-PS RAID solution to achieve maximum performance and reliability.

For details of hardware installation, setup, configuration and considerations, see

- Chapter 1, "Introducing ExaSAN PCIe2.0 Storage System"
- Chapter 2, "Preparing to Install ExaSAN A12S2-PS"
- Chapter 3, "Installing ExaSAN A12S2-PS"
- Chapter 4, "Using RAIDGuard X"
- Chapter 5, RAID Overview

Guide to Conventions

Important information that users should be aware of is indicated with the following icons:

Caution

This icon indicates the existence of a potential hazard that could result in personal injury, damage to your equipment or loss of data if the safety instruction is not observed.

Note

This icon indicates useful tips on getting the most from your Accusys RAID system.

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This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

ExaSAN A12S2-PS User Guide

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1. Introducing ExaSAN PCIe 2.0 Storage System

1. Introducing ExaSAN PCIe 2.0 Storage System

1.1 System Overview

Your new ExaSAN (pronounced “X-sa-SAN”) PCIe 2.0 Storage System is a rack mounted storage that can be used as a DAS (Direct-Attached Storage) or SAN (Storage Area Network) for the post production and broadcasting industries that require high bandwidth. Furthermore, the A12S2-PS supports the latest PCIe 2.0 standard providing a 20Gb bandwidth.

1.1.1 What is the ExaSAN Solution

Developed by Accusys, Inc., a worldwide leader in RAID (Redundant Array of Independent Disks) storage systems, ExaSAN is a system solution built for simple, cost-effective deployment and storage management. Employing PCIe (PCI Express) technology, the PCIe 2.0 Storage System uses QSFP cabling technology to natively transmit at low latency PCI Express Gen 2 protocol. Each channel under PCIe 2.0 can transmit at 500MB/s, giving PCIe 2.0 x4 storage systems a 20Gb bandwidth and PCIe 2.0x8 a 40 Gb bandwidth. The ExaSAN total solution, including its complete line up of rack mount system, tower systems, PCIe switch systems and accessories, puts the benefits of shared, scalable, and high-performance storage within easy reach of organizations with limited IT resources and budgets.

Post production work such as non-linear editing (NLE) requires especially high bandwidth storage to support the volume of data being processed, and ExaSAN storage solution is designed to meet such demands. The high bandwidth enabled by ExaSAN technology allows the client to achieve the maximum efficiency with minimum cost, while its enhanced functionality provides continuous and smooth data transfer to prevent frame drop or lagging of projected content. ExaSAN is a complete solution that includes the PCIe RAID system, cable and HBA card.

Figure 1 below depicts the ExaSAN A12S2-PS system solution architecture. Note that it can be expanded from one RAID system to three systems (daisy-chaining from 1x RAID controller).

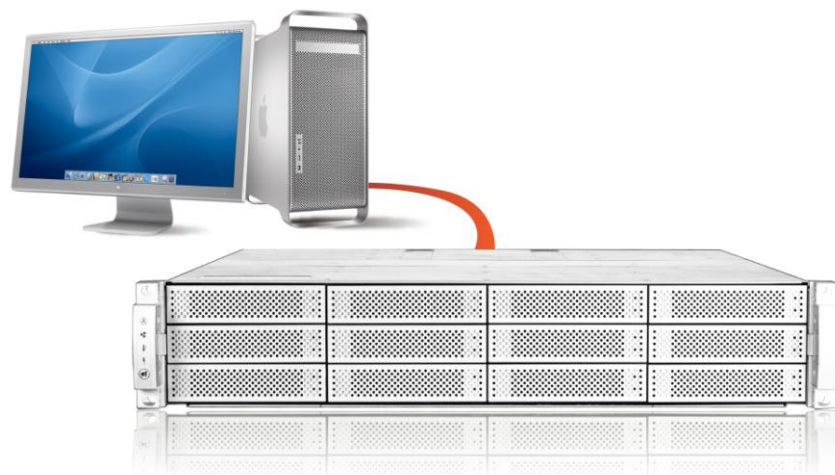


Figure 1

Whether it's collaborative video editing in a post-production workgroup, or a shared research project in a university, the ExaSAN solution offers a range of performance levels and storage capacities that scale to meet the needs of small-to-medium-sized organizations. Equally important is its integrated design, centralized administration and monitoring, and a suite of built-in management tools; which eliminate the need for a staff of experts to install and maintain a SAN for the workgroups.

Figure 2 below depicts a standard ExaSAN system solution architecture.

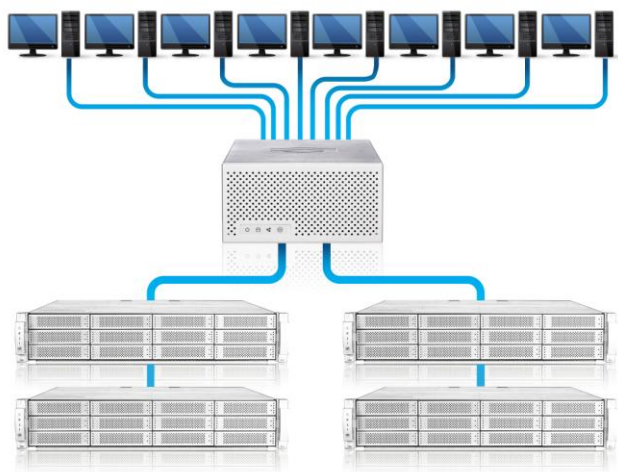


Figure 2

1.1.2 What is the ExaSAN A12S2-PS Solution

The ExaSAN A12S2-PS is a 2U12Bay disk array system designed for all high-end post production storage usage, with the latest interface technology PCIe 2.0 and innovative green design, supports RAID level 0, 1, 5, 6, 0+1, high speed 6Gb SAS drives, and high capacity SATA II drives. The Single port RAID controller of A12S2-PS combined with 12 drives can provide 20Gb bandwidth with its unique Performance Optimization feature.

Your ExaSAN A12S2-PS system consists of the standard components listed below in this section. Note that items 1 through 5 are Accusys-supplied equipment as part of the

A12S2-PS package. The host server and HDD in a DAS/SAN environment are not Accusys-supplied equipment and are therefore not included in the package. Contact your System Integrator/Value Added Reseller if you need assistance in purchasing these components.

1. ExaSAN A12S2-PS PCIe RAID storage system, see Section 1.1.3.1 and 1.1.3.2
2. QSFP-PCIe 2.0 Host Bus Adapter, compatible with PCIe 2.0 and 1.1 slots on the host server, see Section 1.1.3.3
3. QSFP 2M copper for connecting the host and HBA, optical and variety length is optional, see Section 1.1.3.4
4. 2 AC Power cords, see Section 1.1.3.5
5. Rail and rail extender for mounting the A12S2-PS on a rack, see Section 1.1.3.6.

1.1.3 ExaSAN A12S2-PS Components and Accessories

This section provides detailed description of each system component and accessory.

1.1.3.1 ExaSAN PCIe RAID Disk System

The A12S2-PS is a 2U rack mounted RAID system supporting up to 12 hot swappable hard drives (sold separately).

Also note that the RAID disk system comes with a chassis, RAID controller, and disk trays only. The hard disk drives (HDDs) are not included. See Section 1.1.3.2 for considerations concerning HDDs.

Further note that a QSFP Host Bus Adapter is packaged with the PCIe RAID system. In a DAS (Direct Attached Storage)/SAN (Storage Area Network) configuration, this card is to be installed in the host system to provide the PCIe interface with the RAID system.

1.1.3.2 Hard Disk Drive (HDD) for the RAID System

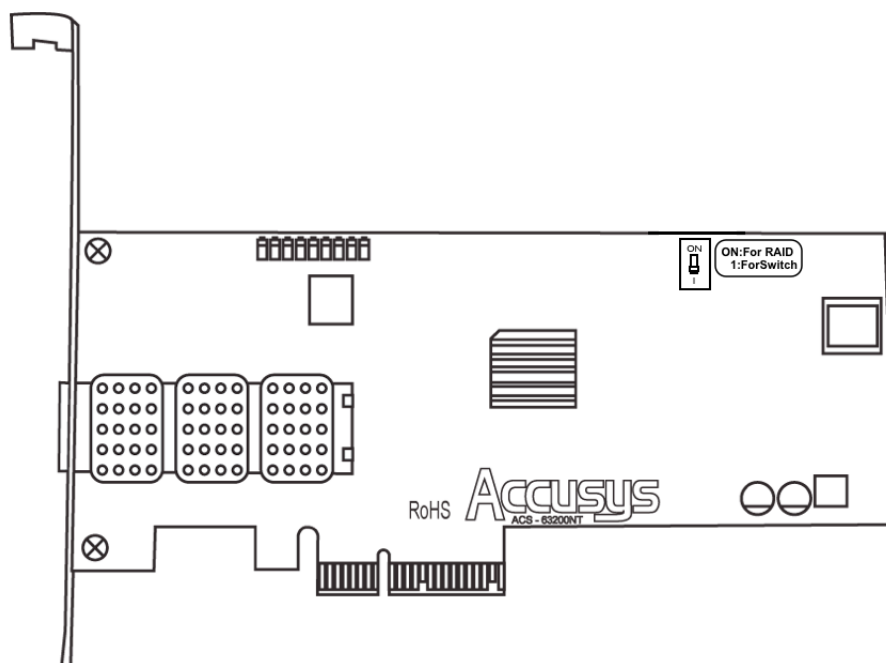
This component is ordered separately from a third-party vendor. The quantities depend on the number and model of RAID systems you have. Consult your RAID system User Guide for additional information.

Hard disk drives come in different storage capacities performance levels. However, be aware that all hard drives in a RAID system should match in size and speed. Furthermore, all hard drives in an array should be of identical model with the same firmware version.

Accusys recommends the SAS and SATA Enterprise HDDs for your RAID disk systems.

1.1.3.3 ExaSAN QSFP Host Bus Adapter (Z1M-G2)

Make sure that each client system in your workgroup has an available PCIe x4, x8, or x16 slot. Note that the PCIe slots on some motherboards are for graphics cards only. Check your motherboard documentation or verify with the motherboard vendor for compatibility with the Accusys-supplied HBA. Also note that some PCIe x4 or x8 slots only



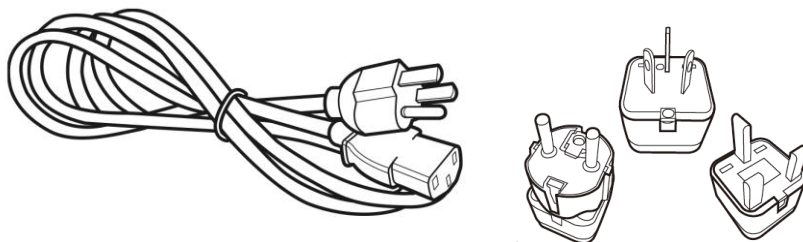
A 2m QSFP Copper Cable is included in your Accusys RAID disk system package. It is used to connect the host systems to the storage system. Use the copper cable for distances up to 5 meters. Optional QSFP cables are available at varying lengths.

1. 2m QSFP Copper Cable, (black in color)
3. 10m QSFP Optical Cable, (orange in color)
4. 30m QSFP Optical Cable, (orange in color)
5. 50m QSFP Optical Cable, (orange in color)
6. 100m QSFP Optical Cable (orange in color)



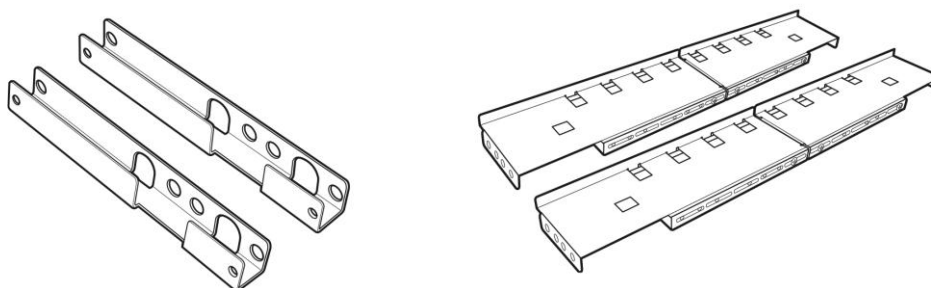
1.1.3.5 Power Cord & Power convertors

Two AC Power Cords are included in the SWF16 package. We also provide three types of power convertors – EK, AU, EU, in addition to the US standard power cord.



1.1.3.6 Rail and Rail Extender

This accessory is included in your RAID system package. It is used to mount the A12S2-PS system onto a standard 19" rack.



1.1.4 Key Features

Below are the key features of the system. They are the reasons why ExaSAN is your top RAID solution for a power user, working on high-end personal work.

1. Host Interface

- PCI Express Gen2 5Gb/S x4, transfer up to 20Gb/S

2. Disk Interface

- Supports 12x SAS/SATA 6Gb and SSD disks
- Supports 3.5"/2.5" hard disks

3. RAID Controller Specifications

- Hardware XOR/Multi-Parity engine
- 2GB DDRII-800 memory, ECC-protected, support up to 4GB

4. Software Specifications

- Multiple RAID levels: 0,1,5,6, 0+1, and JBOD
- UP to 4 independent disk arrays
- RAID capacity partitioning: up to 16 slices
- Support up to 64 LUNs

- Variable stripe sizes: 8, 16, 32, 64, 128, 256 (KB)
- Selective initialization method with background initialization
- Online RAID set expansion and level migration
- Controller and Disk Cache Control to optimize read/write performance
- Support write-back and write-through caching
- Automatic drive insertion/removal detection and fast disk rebuilding
- Online bad block data recovery and reallocation
- Online disk scrubbing and data refresh and parity regeneration
- Disk health monitoring by S.M.A.R.T.
- NVRAM-based transaction log and auto parity resynchronization
- Array roaming and disk traveling with redundant on-disk metadata
- Array recovery to restore RAID configurations
- Dual firmware images for firmware recovery
- Disk lag proof technology to guarantee disk timely exposure
- Equalization mode to smooth the performance of sequential

5. Management

- Java-based GUI, cross-platform executable
- Enclosure components monitoring and control via GUI
- LED indicator for RAID & enclosure status
- Event logging to text file with event viewer
- Event notification by email (SMTP)
- Centralized multiple RAID system management
- Supports both in-band and out-band management
- Supports RAID management by EFI and BIOS
- Support firmware upgrade via GUI
- Support CLI (Command Line Interface)
- Support SNMP
- Support remote management

6. Enclosure

- Modularized components design, Power module and Fan module support hot-pluggable.
- FAN, Power, Temperature status LED indication in the front handle.
- 80plus power can be above 80% providing the energy conversion efficiency with more power bill savings
- Power supply also supports Power Management Bus (PMBus) protocol allowing it to monitor power supply status and performance from RAIDGuard X
- Dimensions: 88mm(H) x 483mm(W) x 597mm(L)

7. Supported OS

- Windows 7, 8, 2008 and 2012 (32/64bit)

- Linux: Red Hat, SUSE, Fedora, CentOS etc.
- MAC: OS X(10.5, 10.6, 10.7, 10.8, 10.9 and later)

8. Operating Conditions

- Humidity: 5% - 85%
- Operating Temperature: 0C – 40C
- Certification: RoHS, UL, CE, FCC, C-Tick, BSMI

9. Host connection

- HBA: Z1M-G2 (PCIe2.0, 20Gb/s)
- Converter: C1M-G2 (Thunderbolt2.0 to PCIe2.0) [..more info](#)

10. QSFP Cable

- Connector PCI Express 2.0 x4
- Copper cable support Length: 2M
- Optical cable support Length: 10M, 30M, 50M, 100M

1.2 Unpacking the System

Your ExaSAN A12S2-PS is shipped in special packaging to provide protection during transportation, as well as to facilitate simple and safe removal from the carton(s). Note that different components may be shipped in separate cartons.

1.2.1 What Is In Your Order

Your ExaSAN System Integrator/Value Added Reseller should have helped you assess, identify, and order all necessary system components and accessories. If you ordered the complete system solution, your order includes everything described in Section 1.3.

Note that there are generic system components and accessories required by the ExaSAN solution architecture, but they are not sold by your ExaSAN System Integrator/Value Added Reseller and therefore not included in your ExaSAN A12S2-PS order. Please refer to Section 1.5, "What Else You Need" for additional information.

1.2.2 Checking the Equipment You'll Need

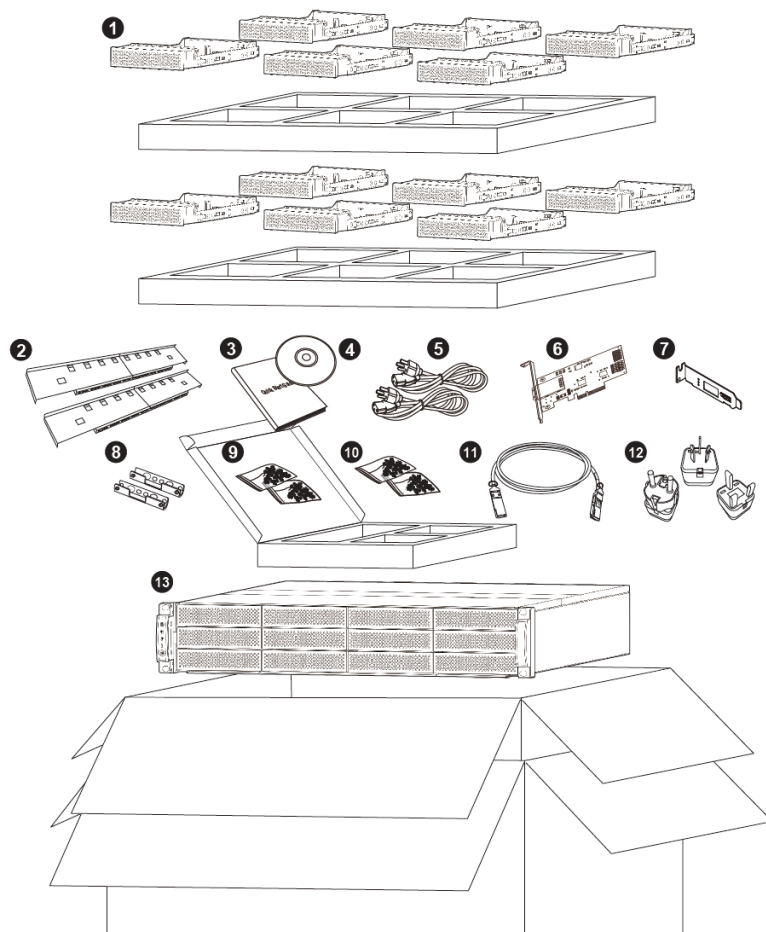
Section 1.1.3 has a complete list of all the equipment you'll need to set up the ExaSAN A12S2-PS. Check carefully against that list; verify that you have all of the system components and accessories before commencing hardware installation.

1.2.3 Unpacking

Follow the steps below to open the carton and remove the system from its packaging. Keep in mind that you should work with a second person if heavy lifting is a concern for you.

1. Read Chapter 2, "Preparing to Install ExaSAN A12S2-PS."
2. Remove any packing material on the outside of the carton.
3. Cut the tape at the top of the carton. If you use a long cutting instrument, exercise care to avoid damaging the content inside.

4. Open up the top flaps of the carton to reveal the content inside. Remove the protective foam on top of the system. Carefully remove each item from inside the carton.



Packing list

- ❶ Disk tray x12
- ❷ Rail extender
- ❸ Quick Start Guide x1
- ❹ Installation CD x1
 - User manual (*Read it first*)
 - Boot code
 - Installer Package (Windows, Mac)
 - Drive (Windows, Linux)
 - GUI (Client, Server)
 - System Code
- ❺ AC Power Cord cable x2
- ❻ QSFP Host Bus Adapter x1
- ❼ Half-high bracket x1
(for full-high bracket replacement)
- ❽ Rail set x2
- ❾ Screw pack for disk tray x2
- ❿ Screw pack for rack x2
- ⓫ 2M QSFP copper cable x1
- ⓬ EU, AU, UK power converter
- ⓭ ExaSAN A12S2-PS Storage x1

1.3 What's in the Box

Carefully check your carton contents against the included packing list, or the inside flap of the box, and your original purchase order. You should have the items as described in the sections below.

Contact your Accusys System Integrator/Value Added Reseller or Accusys Customer Service (see Appendix C "Customer Service and Technical Support" for more information) to report any missing item.

1.3.1 The ExaSAN RAID

Your ExaSAN RAID disk system carton contains the following items:

1. PCIe 2.0 RAID disk system - A12S2-PS (x1)
2. Accessories package (x1)
3. Disk tray package (x1)

1.3.2 ExaSAN Accessories

The Accessories package includes the following items. These items can also be ordered, packaged, and shipped separately from Accusys.

1. QSFP Host Bus Adapter (x1)
2. Half-high bracket (x1) for full-high bracket replacement
3. 2M QSFP copper cable (x1)
4. AC power cord cable (x2)
5. Installation CD (x1)
6. Quick Start Guide (x1)
7. Rail set (x2)
8. Rail extender (x2)
9. Screw pack for disk tray (x2)
10. Screw pack for rack (x2)
11. Power converter UK, EU, AU to US (x3)

1.3.3 Disk Tray package

The Disk Tray package is divided into two layers. Each layer holds 6 disk trays, with a total of 12 disk trays.

1.4 SAS JBOD Expansion

The SAS JBOD Expansion is sold separately from the A12S2-PS. The SAS JBOD expansion uses 2U 12 drive rack mount chassis similar to the A12S2-PS. The SAS JBOD expansion can be daisy-chained, up to maximum of 3 units, from a single A12S2-PS to expand capacity to a maximum of 48 hard drives (including the A12S2-PS). The SAS JBOD expansions can be controlled off a single A12S-PS RAID controller, providing a cost effective solution to expanding the RAID capacity.

Note

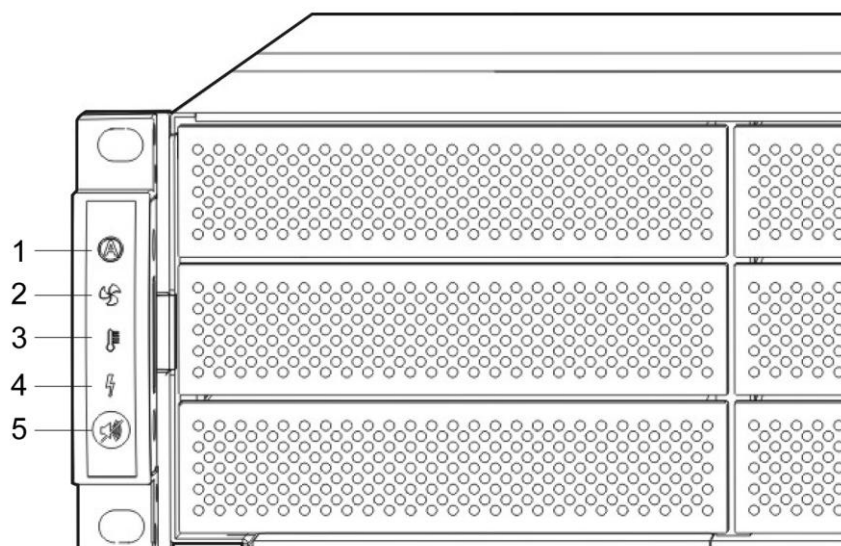
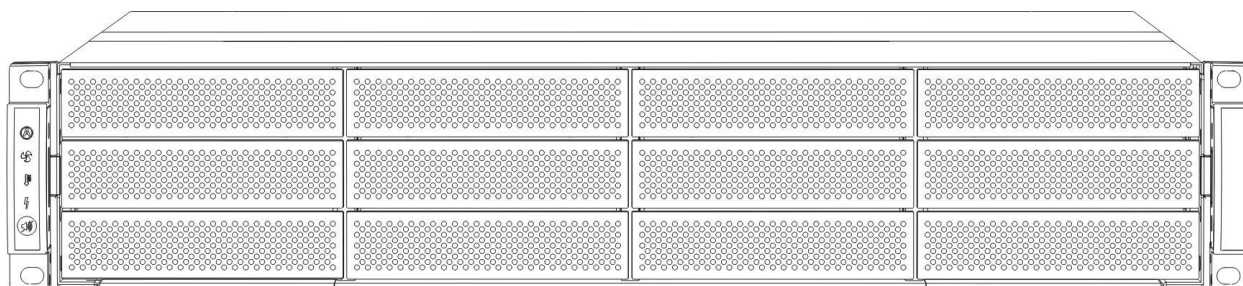
The SAS JBOD is not equipped with a RAID controller and thus can not be used independently of the A12S2-PS.

1.5 Your A12S2-PS at a Glance

This section helps you get familiar with the physical appearance of your ExaSAN A12S2-PS.

1.5.1 ExaSAN A12S2-PS

1.5.1.1 A12S2-PS Front Panel



Item	Name	Description
1	Controller A Status	Steady Blue indicates the controller A is working normally. Flashing Blue indicates the host is accessing. Steady Red indicates the controller A has failed. Flashing Red Other error.
2	System Fan	Steady Blue indicates the fan modules

		are working normally. Steady Red indicates one or more of the fan modules failed.
3	System Temperature	Steady Blue indicates the system temperature is under the preset value. Steady Red indicates the system temperature is over the preset value.
4	System Power	Steady Blue indicates the subsystem power supplies are working normally. Steady Red indicates that a power supply has failed.
5	Mute Button	Pushing the button will turn off the system beeper when beeper is sounding. If another abnormal event occurs, the beeper will alarm again. If you want to disable the beeping all the time, please use GUI of the RAID system and find the "Preference" to uncheck the "Beeper". For more information, please refer to the section 4.1.2.7

1.5.1.2 Beeper Codes

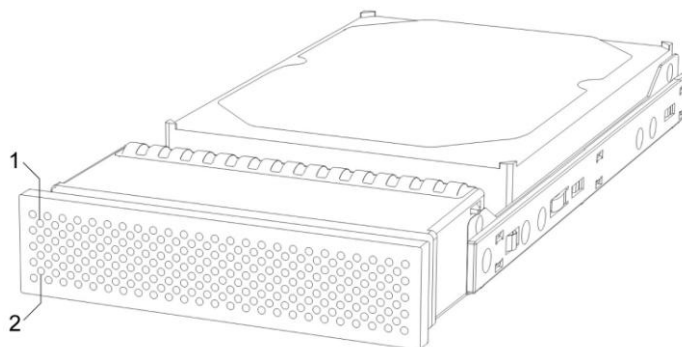
Controller Status	Beeper mode
Turn on the Controller	One short beep
System Panic	Long beep
Controller Work Status, ex: Disk init, disk rebuild, disk expansion, disk migratrion, disk snapshot, etc.	Regularly repeating one short beep
System Problem, ex: Fan issue, Power issue, RAID error,	Regularly repeating three short beeps

etc.	
Create array successfully	One short beep
Open the Beeper setting	Two short beeps
Memory test error	Regularly repeating three rapid short beeps

1.5.1.3 Disk Mapping

Disk 1	Disk 4	Disk 7	Disk 10
Disk 2	Disk 5	Disk 8	Disk 11
Disk 3	Disk 6	Disk 9	Disk 12

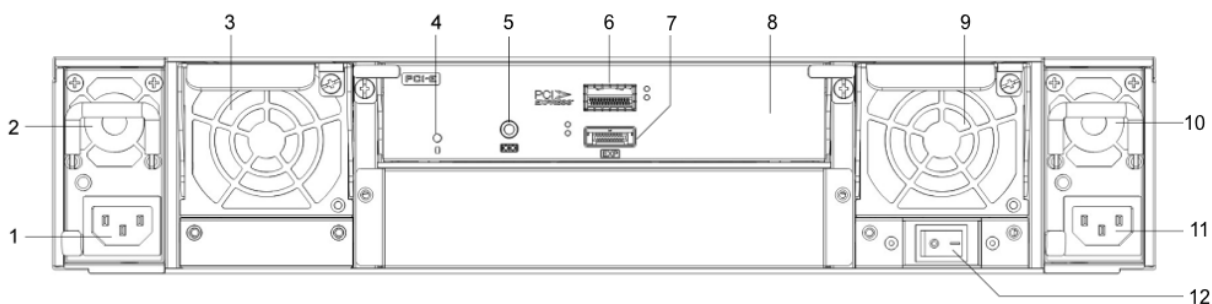
1.5.1.4 Disk Tray



Disk Status	LED #1	LED #2
Disk Online		Steady Green
Disk Fail		Steady Red
No Disk		Steady Red
Disk Lock		Steady Green
Disk Access	Flashing Blue	Steady Green
Disk Initialization	Flashing Blue	Steady Green
Disk Rebuild	Flashing Blue	Rebuild Drives: Steady Red Original Drives: Steady Green
Disk Expansion	Flashing Blue	Extend Drives: Rotating Green & Red

		Original Drives: Steady Green
Disk Migration	Flashing Blue	Migrating Drives > Original Drives • Migrating Drives: Rotating Green & Red • Original Drives: Steady Green Migrating Drives < Original Drives • Migrating Drives: Rotating Green & Red • Original Drives: Steady Green Migrating Drives = Original Drives • Migrating Drives: Steady Green • Original Drives: Steady Green
Disk of Health Center Action	Flashing Blue	Steady Green

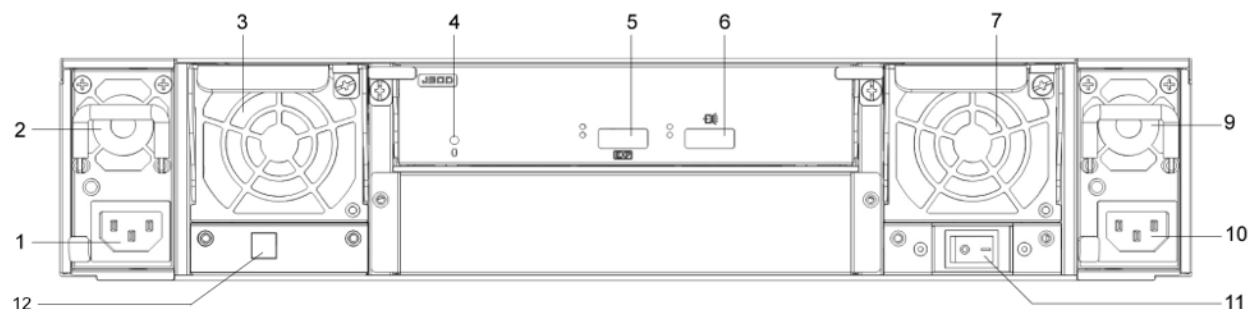
1.5.1.5 A12S2-PS Rear Panel



No.	Name	Description
1	Power Supply AC In	Connects to a power cable and power source.
2	Power supply 1	Removable redundant power supply 1 • Steady Green LED indicates the power supply is working normally. • Steady Red LED indicates the power supply has failed.
3	Cooling fan 1	Prevents the disk array from overheating. • Steady Green LED indicates the fan modules are working normally. • Steady Red LED indicates that a fan module has failed.
4	Heartbeat LED	Indicates the controller status • Flashing Green indicates the controller is active • LED is off if controller is inactive.
5	Terminal port	Connects to maintenance equipment.
6	PCIe port	Connects the controller to the HBA on the host server. • Host access LED (top): Flashing Blue indicates host accessing is in progress • Host connected LED (bottom): Steady Green indicates the controller is connected normally.
7	SAS port	Expansion port for SAS JBOD. • JBOD connected LED (top): Steady Green indicates that JBOD is connected normally. • JBOD access LED (bottom):

		Flashing Blue indicates controller accessing is in progress
8	Controller	Provides access to the hard disk drives.
9	Cooling fan 2	Prevents the disk array from overheating.
10	Power supply 2	Removable redundant power supply 2 • Steady Green LED indicates the power supply is working normally. • Steady Red LED indicates the power supply has failed.
11	Power Supply AC In	Connects to a power cable and power source.
12	Power supply switch	Switches the power on or off.

1.5.1.6 A12S2-PS SAS JBOD Rear Panel

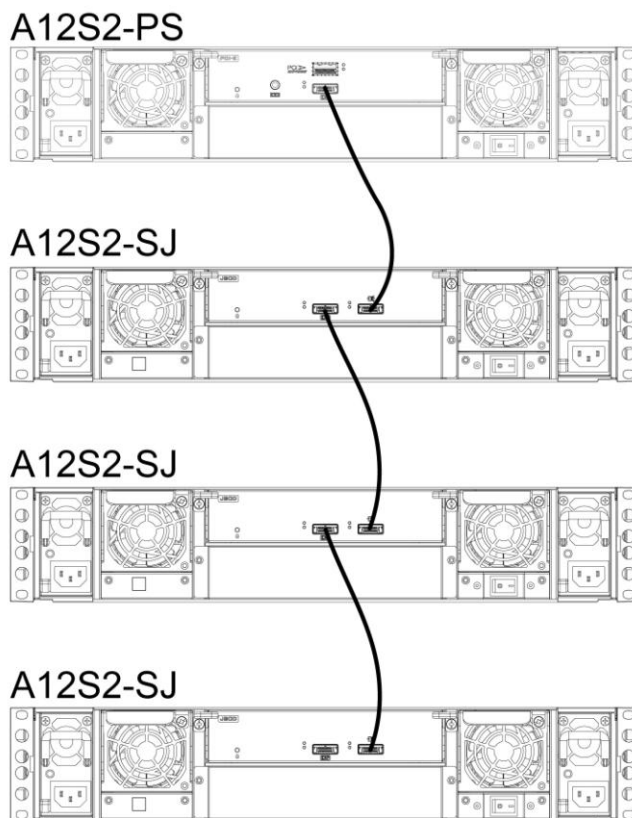


No.	Name	Description
1	Power Supply AC In	Connects to a power cable and power source.
2	Power supply 1	Removable redundant power supply 1 • Steady Green LED indicates the power supply is working normally. • Steady Red LED indicates the power supply has failed.

3	Cooling fan 1	Prevents the disk array from overheating. • Steady Green LED indicates the fan modules are working normally. • Steady Red LED indicates that a fan module has failed.
4	Heartbeat LED	Indicates the controller status • Flashing Green indicates the controller is active • LED is off if controller is inactive.
5	Left SAS port	Expansion port for SAS JBOD.
6	Right SAS port	Cascade upstream to RAID or JBOD system.
7	Cooling fan 2	Prevents the disk array from overheating. • Steady Green LED indicates the fan modules are working normally. • Steady Red LED indicates that a fan module has failed.
9	Power supply 2	Removable redundant power supply 2 • Steady Green LED indicates the power supply is working normally. • Steady Red LED indicates the power supply has failed.
10	Power Supply AC In	Connects to a power cable and power source.
11	Power supply switch	Switches the power on or off.
12	JBOD ID	Indicates the ID of the JBOD expansion ID Range: 1 to 7

1.5.1.7 How to Connect Multiple JBOD

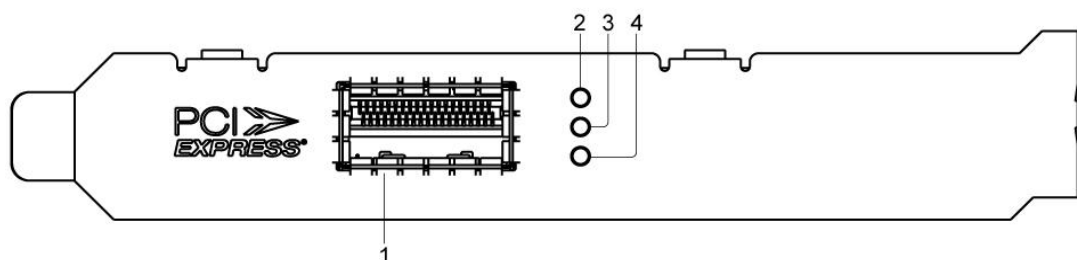
Please note the follow diagram when connecting up to 3JBOD to a single RAID system.

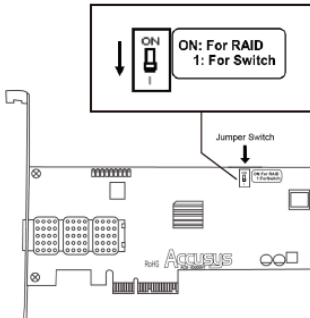


Insure that the mini SAS cable is on the expansion port - "EXP" port on the RAID storage when connecting to the right SAS port on the JBOD

From the JBOD, connect on the "EXP" port to the new right SAS port on the new JBOD and so on.

1.5.2 ExaSAN QSFP Host Bus Adapter (HBA)



No.	Name	Description
1	QSFP Connector Port	For connection with one of the Host Module Ports on the switch rear panel or A12S2-PS directly.
2	Jumper Switch LED Indicator	- Off (no light at all) indicates the jumper pin in question is set to “On” position. In this state, the card is ready for DAS direct connection with the ExaSAN A12S2-PS. - Solid amber indicates the jumper pin in question is set to “1” position. In this state, the HBA card is ready for a SAN connection. See Section 3.1.2, “Installing the HBA Card,” for additional information.  The diagram shows a close-up of the Jumper Switch LED Indicator. It is a small rectangular component with a switch and an LED. The switch is labeled 'ON' and 'OFF'. The LED is labeled 'ON: For RAID 1: For Switch'. The component is mounted on a PCB with other components visible in the background.
3	Link LED Indicator	- Solid green indicates connected PCIe 2.0 link; - Flashing green indicates connected PCIe 1.0 link or downgraded speed. - Off (no light) when there is no link or

		indicates a link with trouble.
4	Access LED Indicator	Flashing blue while there are data access activities with the connected device.

2. Preparing to Install ExaSAN A12S2-PS

2. Preparing to Install ExaSAN A12S2-PS

To ensure safe and smooth operation of your ExaSAN A12S2-PS, it is essential that you choose an appropriate location for the system, and provide an appropriate operating environment and adequate power for all components of the system. As you plan for installation, follow the guidelines below to ensure that the system and its environment are safely and appropriately positioned for efficient operation and service.

2.1 Precaution for Handling the System

Take the following precautions to avoid damages to the system or potential injury to you.

1. Prepare a flat, sturdy surface before removing the system from its packaging. The table or cart that will hold the system should be as close as possible to the system's carton.
2. Ensure that all power switches have been turned off and all power cords disconnected to prevent personal injury and damage to the hardware.
3. Static electricity can damage electronic components of your system. Follow the guidelines below to avoid such damage:
 - a. Work in a static-free environment
 - b. Wear a grounded anti-static wrist strap
 - c. Store uninstalled components in anti-static bags
 - d. Handle circuit boards by their edges and avoid touching chips and connectors

2.2 Choosing the Location for the System

The ExaSAN A12S2-PS is designed as a rack mount system. Depending on where your rack mount is located, you should keep the following points in mind when determining where to place your system.

1. Measure the amount of available space in your rack mount. The amount of space required for the A12S2-PS is 2U.
2. Measure the distance between any two components that need to be connected via cable(s). This measurement will help you determine the length of the required cable(s). Or if you've already purchased the cables, determine the proximity of the components in question.
3. Leave sufficient room, at least two inches, around the unit to allow air ventilation.
4. Do not block or cover any of the ventilation holes in the front and back panels of the unit. Consistent airflow is essential to keeping the system operating efficiently.
5. Allow additional room at the front and back of the unit for service.
6. The ExaSAN A12S2-PS uses several cables and cords. It's a good idea to determine how they will be arranged at the rear of the system, and where the cables will be routed to connect to the host systems and RAID disk systems.

2.3 Electrical Power

At your chosen location for the ExaSAN A12S2-PS, make sure that the electrical circuitry and power outlets are sufficient for the combined power needs of all hardware

components. To plan for safe and adequate power to the system, follow these guidelines:

1. Check the documentation for all hardware components at the chosen location to determine their power requirements. Then make sure that the available power supply for that location is sufficient for the planned components.
2. If you need assistance determining the power needs of the components at the chosen location, consult an electrical expert who is familiar with your facility.
3. If there are devices at the chosen location that use large amounts of power, use surge protectors or power conditions as part of the installation.
4. When planning for electrical power, make sure you have more power than the total power requirements specified for all components. Also make certain that the power load is distributed evenly among circuits to that location. Consult an electrician or other expert if you need assistance with planning for the power needs of your components.
5. Make sure that the power outlets for all hardware components are grounded according to local and national standards. Consult an electrician if you need assistance with grounding.

2.4 Operating Environment

The operating environment for the ExaSAN A12S2-PS must meet certain requirements:

1. Verify that the temperature range of the chosen location is within the limits established for the system and all other components.
2. Make certain that the chosen location has adequate ventilation to maintain the necessary temperature range.
3. If there are multiple hardware components installed at the chosen location, consider additional cooling measures to assure efficient operation of the system and other components.
4. Environment parameters:
 - a. Operating temperature: 0°C to 40°C (32°F to 104°F)
 - b. Non-operating temperature: -40°C to 70°C (-40°F to 158°F)
 - c. Operating humidity: 5-85%, non-condensing
 - d. Storage humidity: 0-95%, non-condensing

2.5 Security

To ensure the security of the ExaSAN A12S2-PS, make certain that the chosen location is secure and that only authorized staff members or technicians can gain access to this location.

3. Installing the ExaSAN A12S2-PS

3. Installing the ExaSAN A12S2-PS

Follow the steps in this chapter to prepare your ExaSAN A12S2-PS system for installation.

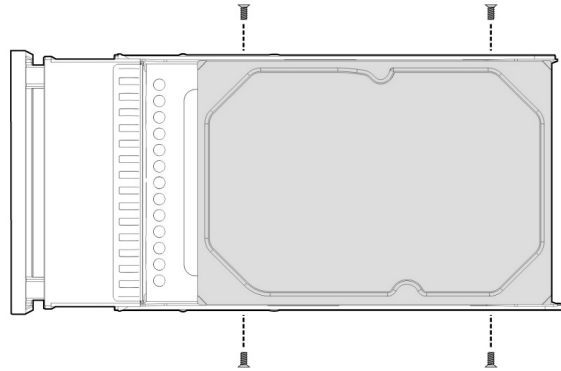
3.1 Installing the System

Follow the instructions in this section to hook up all your hardware components of the ExaSAN A12S2-PS system. Do not turn the power of any individual component on until instructed. When all components are properly connected, follow the instructions in section 3.3.1 “Powering On” to turn the components on in the prescribed order.

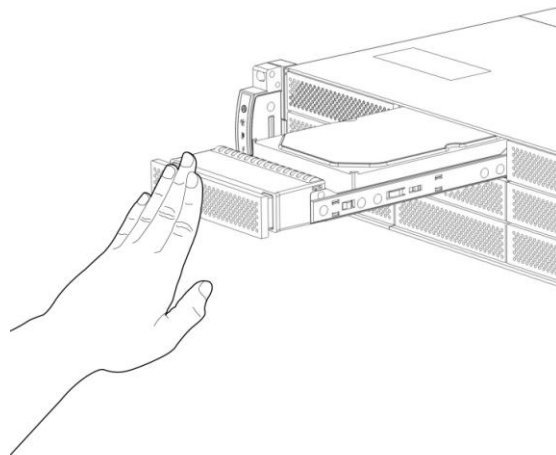
3.1.1 Installing Disk Drives

Follow the steps below to install your HDDs. Refer to the applicable RAID disk system User's Guide and Quick Start Guide for additional information.

1. With the connectors facing outward, insert the HDD into the disk tray.
2. Slide the HDD outward until the connectors align with the edge of the disk tray.
3. Secure the HDD to the disk tray with two screws on each side.



4. Slide the disk tray into the disk bays on the front of the chassis.



5. Push the tray inward until the tray firmly connects and you hear the tray click into place.
6. Repeat for all drives to be installed into the A12S2-PS.

Note

The hard drives in a RAID system should match in size and speed. All drives in an array should be of identical model with the same firmware version.

3.1.2 Installing the HBA Card

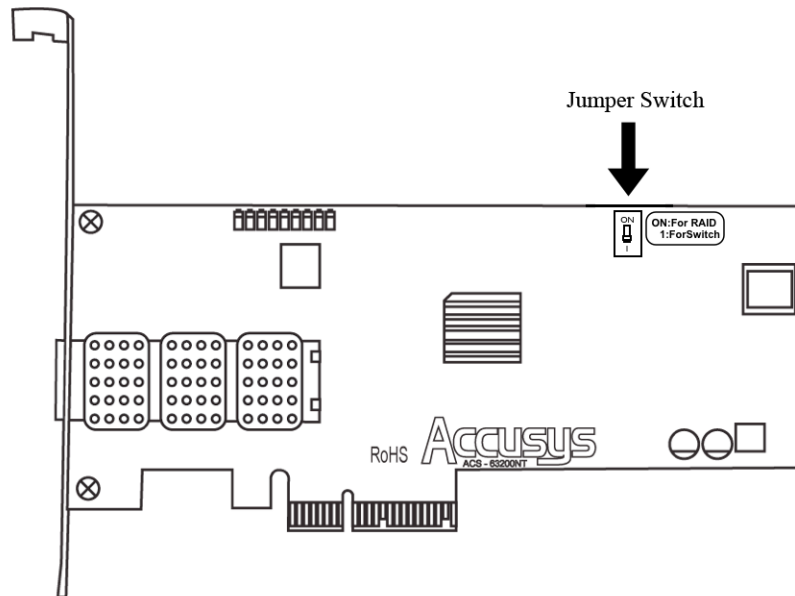
Before the ExaSAN A12S2-PS is ready to be connected and powered on, you must install the HBA card in the workgroup client system. The HBA card is compatible with PCIe x4, x8, and x16 slots. If a choice is given, use the fastest PCIe slot available. Although the HBA card is compatible with both PCIe 1.1 and 2.0 standards, only the latter is recommended due to performance consideration.

Caution

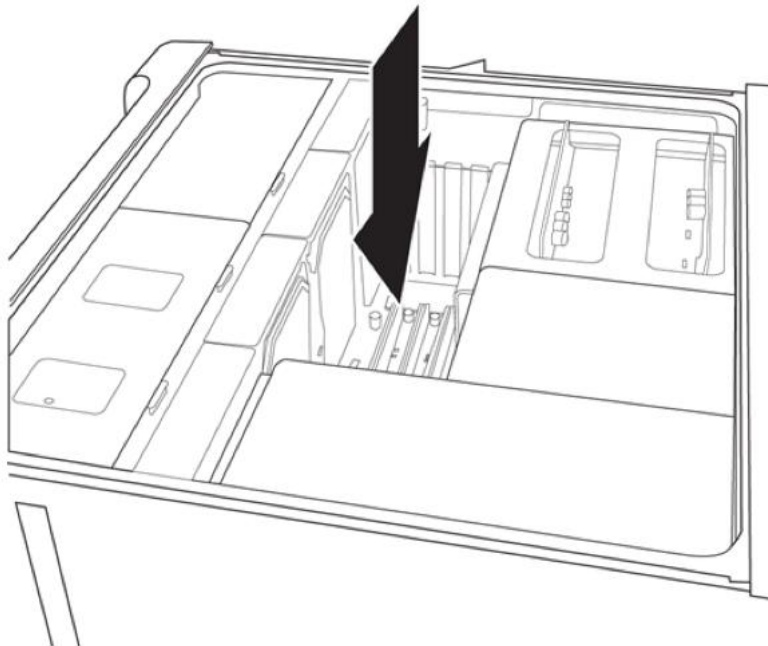
PCIe slots on some motherboards are for graphics cards only. Check with the motherboard vendor for compatibility.

Follow these steps to install the card in each host system:

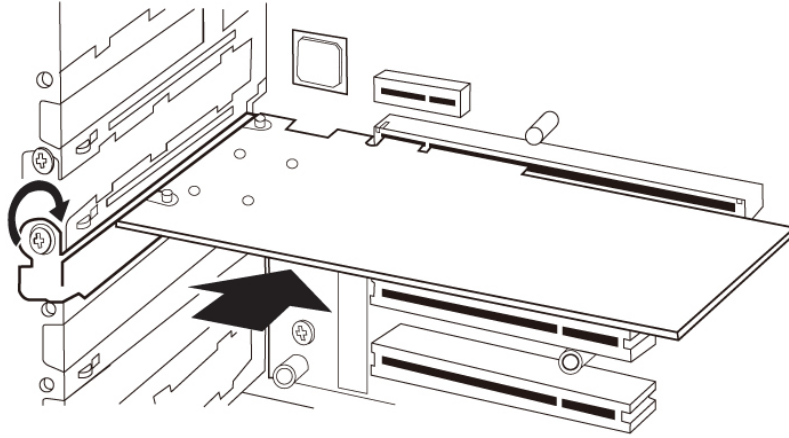
1. Make sure that the client system is turned off.
2. Open the client system's outer casing cover, check with your vendor documentation for instructions if necessary.
3. Re-position the HBA card so that you are facing jumper switch as shown below. You can use the jumper switch to configure the HBA for DAS or SAN usage. Set the jumper switch before installing into the host
 - DAS mode: When the switch is in the "On" position, the HBA card is enabled for RAID (Direct-Attached Storage A12S2-PS) mode.
 - SAN mode: In the "1" position, the HBA is enabled for switch (SAN) mode.



4. Locate the available PCIe slot; remove the blank plate if one is present, save the screw for later use.



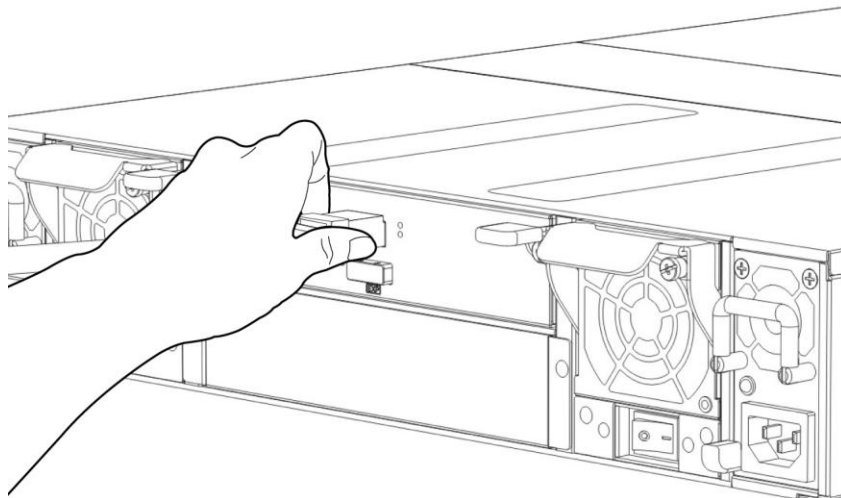
5. Position the connector of the card over the slot, insert the connector into the slot, press gently but firmly until it is securely seated.



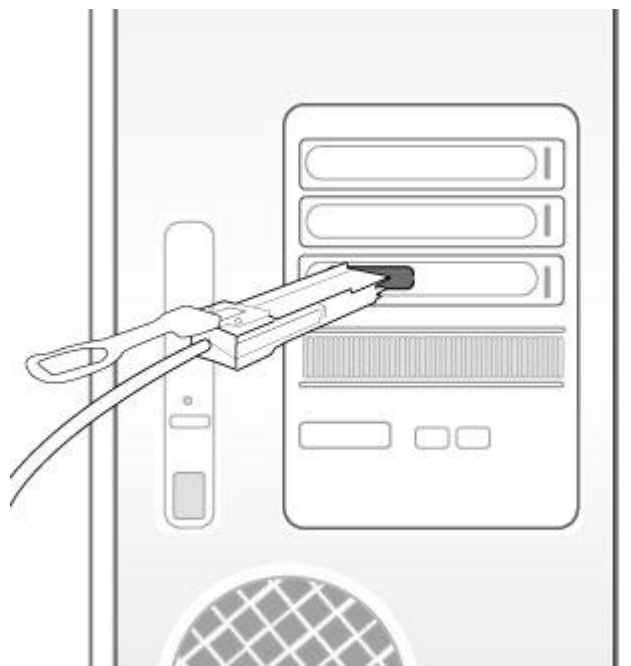
6. Use the screw that you saved in step 2 to secure the metal bracket of the card to the system case.
7. Replace the outer casing cover.

3.1.3 Connecting the HBA to the A12S2-PS System

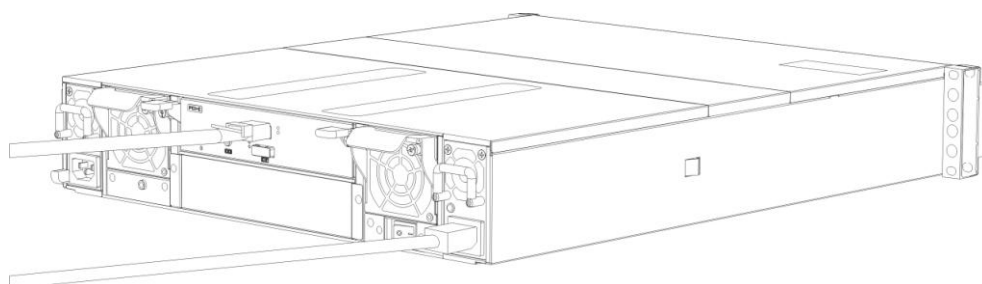
1. Connect the HBA to the ExaSAN A12S2-PS with a QSFP PCIe cable. Insert one end of the QSFP cable into one of the host module ports on the rear panel of A12S2-PS. Your cable connector is securely plugged when you hear a click. If you need to unplug the cable, pull the ring on the connector firmly until it is detached from the port. Note that the QSFP used in the photo illustration below is a QSFP optical cable. If the distance between the switch and the host system is less than 5 meters in your case, you might have order the QSFP copper cable for this purpose.



2. Insert the other end of the cable into the PCIe port on the HBA card, which you installed on the host system earlier in Section 3.1.2. The cable connector is securely plugged when you hear a click.



3. Plug a power cord into the AC power-in port in the storage system; do not turn power on yet.

**Caution**

Once powered on, Do **NOT** remove the QSFP PCIe cable when in use to avoid data loss and corruption.

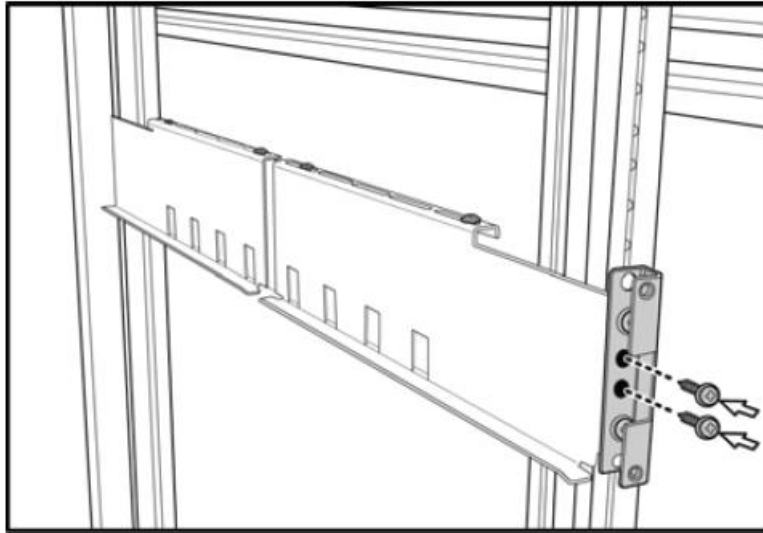
3.1.4 Installing the rail on A12S2-PS System

Your disk array is designed to be mounted in 2U slot on a standard 19-inch rack. The ExaSAN A12S2-PS is shipped with the controller installed, and ready to be mounted. It is recommended to mount the disk array before installing the hard disk drives.

You may need to install rail extenders to properly secure the disk array.

To install the rail extenders:

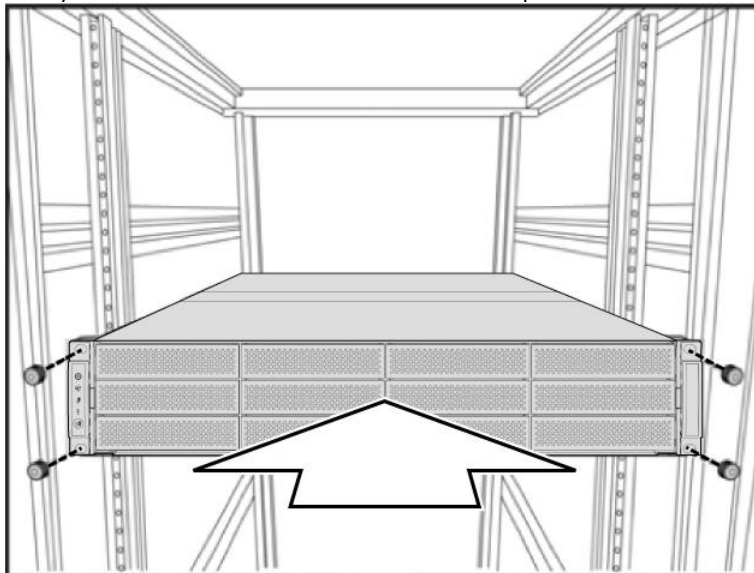
1. Attach the rail extenders and secure with two screws.



2. Slide the disk array into the rack and secure into place with the fixing screws.

To mount the disk array in a rack:

1. Attach eight rack nuts into the rack, making sure that they correspond with the mounting points on the rails.
2. Attach the rails and adjust the length to fit the rack.
3. Secure the rails with two nuts and bolts on both the front and back of the rack.
4. Tighten the locking screws on the top of the rails.
5. Slide the disk array into the rack and secure it into place with the fixing screws.

**Caution**

The disk array is heavy. To prevent injury, follow proper lifting procedures and always move the disk array with the help of at

least one other person.

3.2 Powering the System On and Off

3.2.1 Powering On

Before powering on, make sure that all cables and cords are properly installed and connected.

1. If you have not yet done so, plug the power cords for ExaSAN A12S2-PS Storage System to a power source.
2. Turn power on for the ExaSAN A12S2-PS by switching on the Power button. Wait for the Controller A status (refer to Section 1.5.1.1, "A12S2-PS Front Panel") to turn into a steady blue state. Note that you might hear a few short beeps generated from the RAID disk system during this process. You may ignore them as they are designed for Accusys' internal diagnostic purpose only.
3. Turn on the host server.

Caution

It is important to follow the correct Power On sequence. Failure to do so may result in some features not functioning properly.

3.2.2 Powering Off

If you need to power off the entire system, such as in the cases of switch or RAID system firmware updates, adding a RAID system or client computer, power off in the reverse order of Powering On. Before turning off the A12S2-PS Storage System, turn off the host server first. During RAID initiation or disk drive rebuilding, you can turn off the host server and leave the A12S2-PS powered on.

3.3 Install driver and GUI

Before installing driver and GUI, make sure all connections and power on sequences are all correct.

3.3.1 Installing ExaSAN driver and GUI RAIDGuardX

Installation files can be found in DVD of accessory, you can also download the latest version from our website if necessary, check the website if any new version (<http://www.accusys.com.tw/support/download.html>). If you need more info or tech support, please contact reseller of ExaSAN product or Accusys FAE Dept. (see Appendix C “Customer Service and Technical Support” for more information)

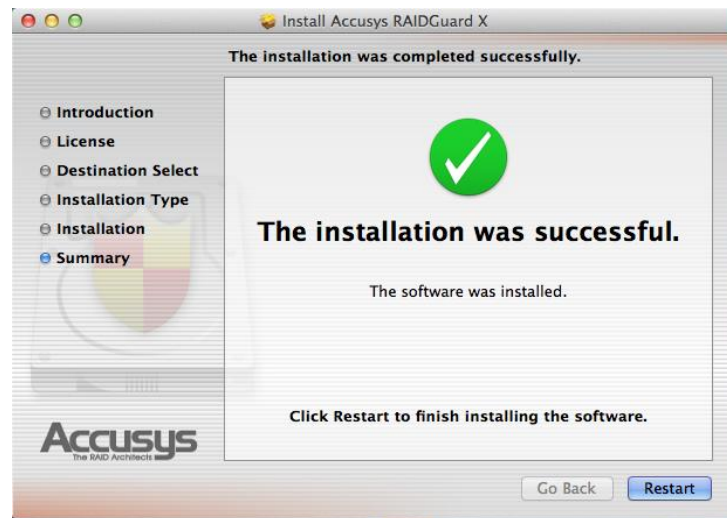
Note

- For Mac/Windows platform:
Executing installer package to install driver and GUI at the same time.
- For Linux platform:
Driver and GUI must be built in kernel and executed separately.

3.3.1.1 Installing driver and GUI on MAC and Windows

Driver and GUI Installation

1. Insert the DVD into the DVD-ROM of the MAC or Windows.
2. For Mac, execute double clicking “/MAC Installer/Vx.x/Accusys_IP_MAC3.1.8.mpkg”.
For Windows, execute “/Windows installer/Vx.x/Accusys_Win_x.x.exe”.
Follow the onscreen instructions to install and click **Restart** to complete installation.



GUI installation successful page

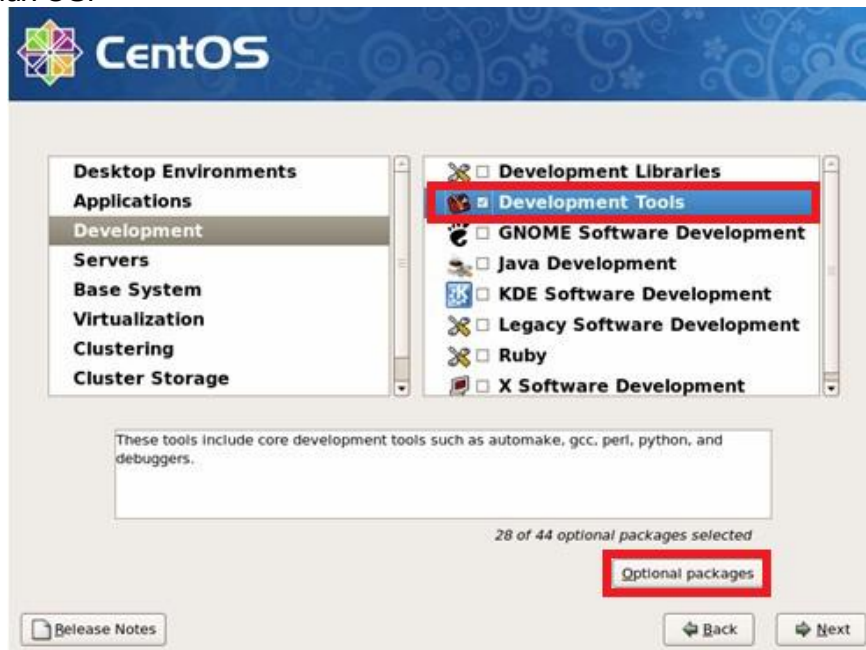
3.3.1.2 Installing driver and GUI on Linux

Following procedures contain 2 procedures;

- Driver installation
- GUI RAIDGuardX installation

Driver Installation

You must have your Linux system with developmental environment and kernel source, in other words you should select the adequate packages on the menu list during installation. Check “Development Tools” Then click “Optional Packages” to select all packages when you install your Linux OS.



1. Copy the ExaSAN RAID system driver files onto your desktop. Open a terminal window and type the following commands to change the source files directory.

```
# cd 'root/Desktop/Linux_Drv_x.x.x
# make
# ls
```

```
[root@localhost Linux_Drv_3.1.8]# ls
ACS6x.ko  acs_ame.h  ame.h      AME_Queue.c  AME_Raid.o  MPIIO.c
ACS6x.mod.c  acs_ame.o  AME_import.h  AME_Queue.h  built-in.o  MPIIO.h
ACS6x.mod.o  ACS_MSG.c  AME_module.c  AME_Queue.o  Makefile    MPIIO.o
ACS6x.o      ACS_MSG.h  AME_module.h  AME_Raid.c   Module.markers  OS_Define.h
acs_ame.c    ACS_MSG.o  AME_module.o  AME_Raid.h   Module.symvers
```

Verify that driver ACS6x.ko has been compiled. If so, please type the following command to install it.

```
# insmod ACS6x.ko
# lsmod
```

```

root@localhost Linux_Drv_3.1.8]# lsmod
Module                  Size  Used by
iC56x                   138120  0
autofs4                 57033  2
hidp                    83521  2
rfcomm                  104809  0
l2cap                   89281  10 hidp,rfcomm
bluetooth               118597  5 hidp,rfcomm,l2cap
blockvt                 260300  4
ifs                     314412  1 blockvt
lockd                   99185  1 nfs
nfs                     38849  2 blockvt,nfs
nfs_cache               52385  1 nfs
nfs_acl                 36673  1 nfs
nfs_rpc                 197897  5 blockvt,nfs,lockd,nfs_acl
nfs_pufreq_ondemand     42449  1
nfs_confreq             47937  3

```

The driver (ACS6x) should be now loaded in Linux driver module list.

Note:

1. Login as **root**, install driver will need root permission.
2. If you want to **start the driver automatically**, please put the compiled driver (ACS6x.ko) to directory as follows:

```
#cp ACS6x.ko /lib/modules/`uname -r`/kernel/drivers/scsi
```

[For RHEL, CentOS, etc]

```
#depmod -a
```

[For SLES OS]

```
#vi /etc/modprobe.d/unsupported-modules
```

(Modify the line "allow_unsupported_modules 1")

```
#mkinitrd
```

(Warning: recommend to backup /boot/initrd-`uname -r` before doing "mkinitrd", if any trouble)

```
#reboot
```

GUI RAIDGuardX Installation

Before installing RAIDGuardX, make sure the RAID HBA drivers is already installed in your Linux OS.

1. You will need two source files; GS (RAIDGuardX Server) and GC (RAIDGuardX Client), you can download from Accusys website: <http://www.accusys.com.tw/support/download.html>.
GS location: /{ExaSAN model}/GUI/Server/Linux.zip
GC location: /{ExaSAN model}/GUI/Client/x.x.x.zip
2. Create folder "Accusys", and unzip GS/GC files to subfolder GS and GC.
3. Perform GS, open a terminal console, and enter the following commands:

```
# cd /Accusys/GS/Linux/X.X.X
# chmod -R 777 SourceCode
# cd /Accusys/GS/Linux/X.X.X/SourceCode/
# ./make.sh
# cd /Accusys/GS/Linux/X.X.X/AP_Accusys/
# ./DTRGuiSrv_64
```

```
[root@localhost Desktop]# cd Accusys/GS/Linux/3.1.7
[root@localhost 3.1.7]# ls
AP_Accusys  readme.txt  SourceCode
[root@localhost 3.1.7]# chmod -R 777 SourceCode
[root@localhost 3.1.7]# cd SourceCode/
[root@localhost SourceCode]# ls
binreloc.c      cNetwork.c      hInBand.h      hSIO_1386.h
binreloc.h      cPollingEvent.c hInclude.h     hSIO_x86.h
cDTRIoctl.c     cSemaphore.c    hMail.h        hSrvConfig.h
cFindRaidCard.c cShareMem.c     hNetwork.h     Makefile.linux
cInBand.c       cSrvConfig.c    hPollingEvent.h make.sh
Class           DTRGuiSrv       hSemaphore.h   myUserClientStuff.c
cMail.c         hDeclar.h       hShareMem.h    myUserClientStuff.h
cMain.c         hDTRIoctl.h     hSIO.h
[root@localhost SourceCode]# ./make.sh
[root@localhost SourceCode]# cd ..
[root@localhost 3.1.7]# cd AP_Accusys/
[root@localhost AP_Accusys]# ls
activation.jar  EchoBack.class  SendMail.class
DTRGuiSrv      JMsgFrame.class sock2srv.class
DTRGuiSrv_64   mail.jar        sockThread.class
EchoAliveThread.class  MsgThread.class  srvGui_req_frame.class
EchoBacks1.class  MulticastReceiver.class  UDPBombermanServer.class
EchoBacks2.class  SendMailS1.class  UDPServer.class
[root@localhost AP_Accusys]# ./DTRGuiSrv_64
GS_73_3.1.7 (Jun 13 2014 - 10:36:06).
Start initialize share Mem for GUI Config ...
I am duty, Leave !!!
[root@localhost AP_Accusys]# Start initialize share Mem for all Ctrls ...
Find DTR RAID Card...
pSignature match ACCUSYS
IOctl bHeatsink = 0x1!
bCtrlrSN: a08s3033333333333333
bBP: 0x0
bBN: 0x1
bModelName: A0853-PS
```

Note: Leave the GS terminal there and **DON'T** close it. Open another new terminal to perform GC.

4. Perform GC, first to make sure the Java version is higher than 1.6, enter the following commands:

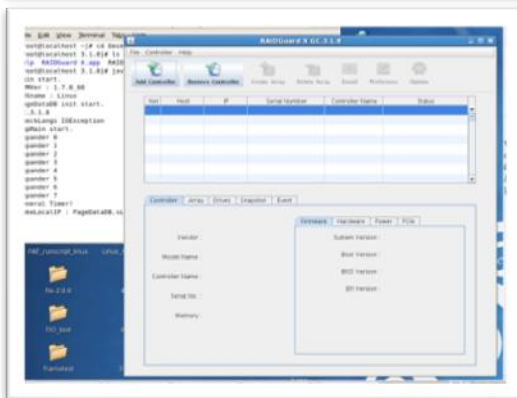
```
# java -version
```

```
[root@localhost ~]# java -version
java version "1.6.0_14"
Java(TM) SE Runtime Environment (build 1.6.0_14-b08)
Java HotSpot(TM) Client VM (build 14.0-b16, mixed mode, sharing)
[root@localhost ~]#
```

If your Java version is earlier than 1.6, please go to www.java.com to upgrade. If version is ok, please enter the following commands:

```
# cd /Accusys/GC/x.x.x/x.x.x/
# java -jar RAIDGuardX.jar
```

```
.root@localhost ~]# cd desktop/ACCUSYS/GC/3.1.8/3.1.8/
root@localhost 3.1.8]# ls
help RAIDGuard X.app RAIDGuardX.jar
root@localhost 3.1.8]# java -jar RAIDGuardX.jar
```



Now you can add controller to config and manage ExaSAN system.

3.3.2 Confirm the ExaSAN RAID system driver on OS

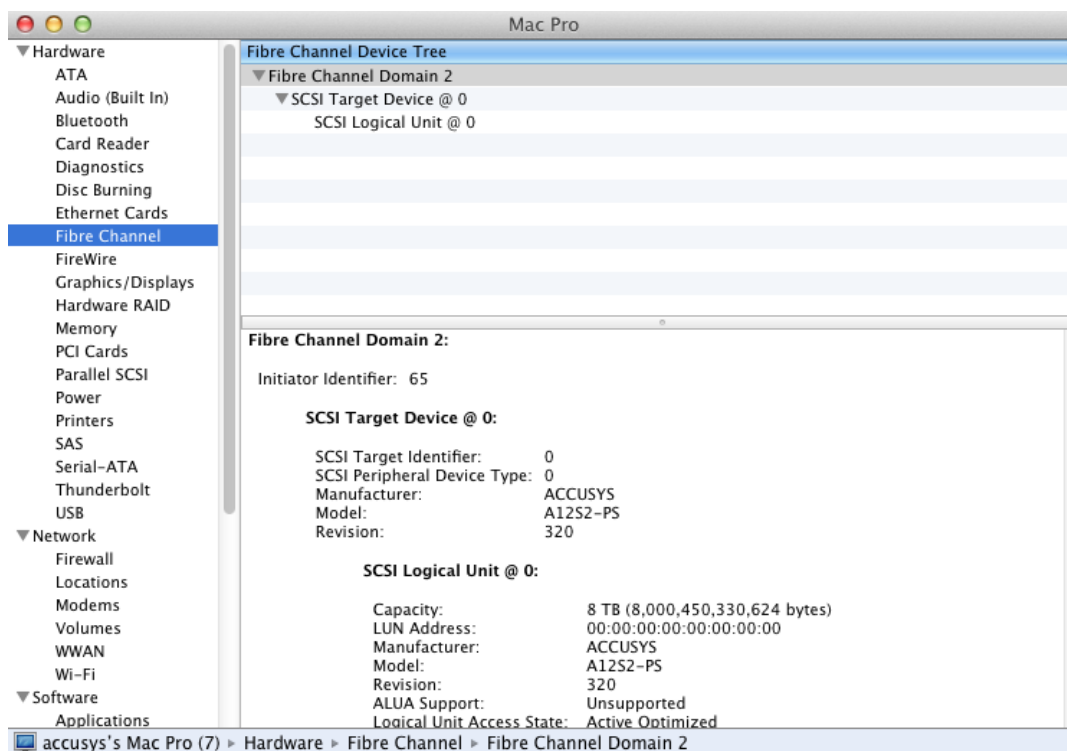
3.3.2.1 Confirming the ExaSAN RAID system driver on Mac

After installing the ExaSAN RAID system HBA driver on the Mac host server, confirm the driver has been properly installed with the following steps.

1. Click on **About This Mac** and lick on the **More Info...** button, then Click on the **System Report...** button.



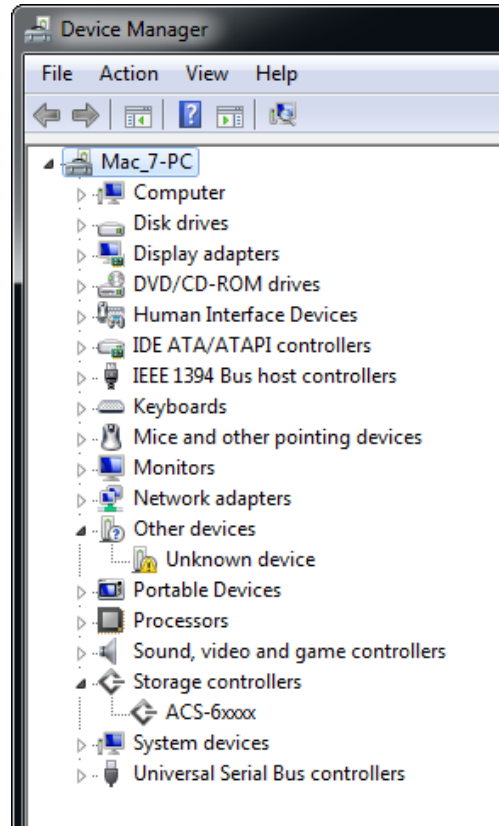
2. MacOS recognize ExaSAN as Fibre device, under the **Hardware** category, click on **Fibre Channel** to bring up information. If HBA (or C1M) has been correctly installed, it will appear a **Fibre Domain**. If there is a SAN volume, it will show as a **SCSI logical unit**



3.3.2.2 Confirming the ExaSAN RAID system driver in Windows

After installing the ExaSAN RAID system HBA driver on a Windows based host server, confirm the driver has been properly installed.

Go to **Control Panel -> System Properties -> Hardware -> Device Manager** (depending on the version of Windows, the path may vary). If the driver has been correctly installed, the HBA is listed with the **ACS6x** identifier (actual name may vary) as **Storage Controllers**.



device manager in Windows platform

Caution

If you see the HBA listed as an unknown device under Windows, follow the driver installation steps to reinstall the driver. If you do not see the HBA under Device Manager, Windows does not detect the card. Power off the host server to reseal the HBA.

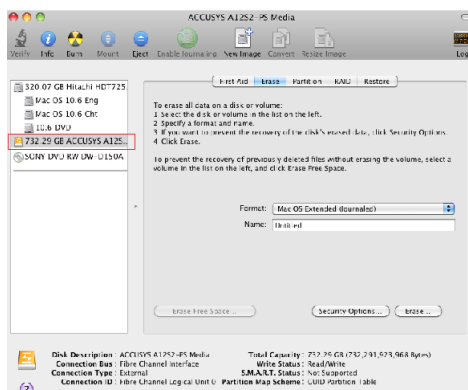
3.3.3 Confirm LEDs on HBA

Verify the Jumper Switch LED, Link LED, and Access LED on the backplane of the HBA are appropriately lit according to your installation (Refer to Section 1.5.2 ExaSAN QSFP Host Bus Adapter).

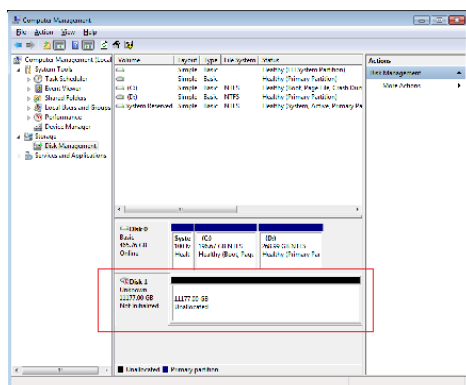
3.4 Create Array

Array can be easily created by RAIDGuard X (refer to [Section: Creating an Array](#)). Make sure LUN mapping (refer to [Section: LUN mapping](#)) is setup, and then volume should be appeared on OS, now, enjoy the high speed access to new ExaSAN Volume.

3.4.1 Check on new Volume in Disk Utility of MacOS



3.4.2 Check on new volume in Disk Management of Windows



3.4.3 Check on new volume by fdisk command on Linux

fdisk -l



4. Using RAIDGuard X

4. Using RAIDGuardX GUI

4.1 RAIDGuardX Overview

RAIDGuardX is a powerful GUI management tool, which support local and remote monitoring of multiple controllers that are connected to the same network. RAIDGuardX have to work with 2 components: RAIDGuardX-Server and RAIDGuardX-Client.

RAIDGuardX-Server: Communicates with RAIDGuardX-Client and RAID controller, it MUST be installed on which host directly connected to RAID system.

Note

RAIDGuardX Server is default installed in ExaSAN Switch, therefore, in the SAN environment, you can run RAIDGuardX Client alone to manage RAID controller.

RAIDGuardX-Client: A java based console to manage and monitor RAID system, which MUST works with RAIDGuardX-Server via local server or switch remotely.

Feature

- Easily manage and morning by Java Based GUI
- Support multiple RAID system
- Multi-platform and operating system
- Remote monitoring
- Event notification

RAIDGuardX-Client console

It is consist of **menu bar** and **main console**.

- menu bar



- main console



4.1.1 RAIDGuardX at a Glance

4.1.1.1 Menu Bar



The menu bar across the top contains the following functions:

Function		Description
File	Exit	Close the program
	Load Controller List	Refresh the controller list
	Language	English and Japanese are supported
Controller	Manual Add Controller	Manually search and add the controller
	Update	Update RAID controller firmware (System Code, Boot Code, etc.)
	Dump controller log	Download the event log for troubleshooting
Help	Search	Search keyword in RAIDGuard X
	Help Center	Displays the help for RAIDGuard X

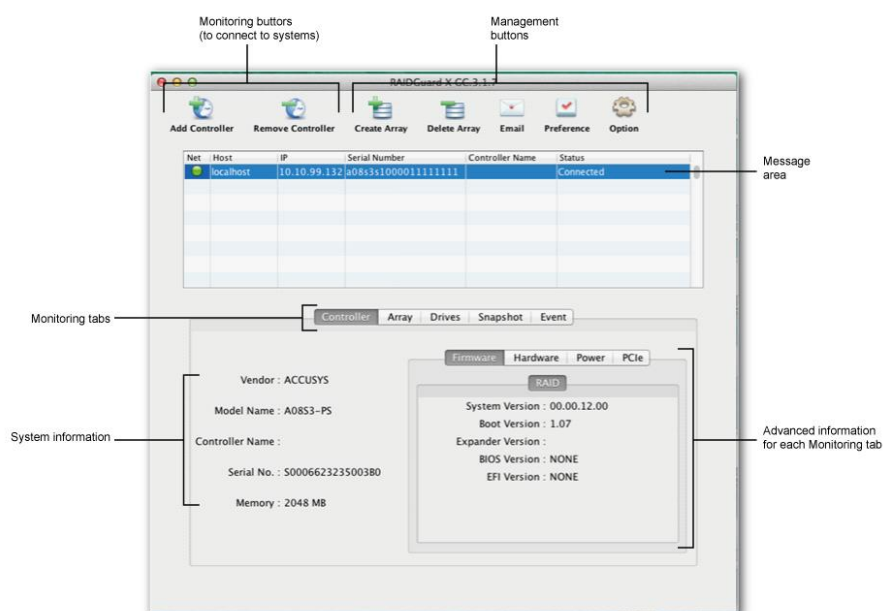
Note

Run **Dump controller log**, events are automatically generate a zip file and saved on directory as below;

- 1.) MacOS: save in /Applications/RAIDGuard X/Log
- 2.) Windows: save in /program file/accusys/exasan/log
- 3.) Linux: save in /{RAIDGuard X install folder}/log

Please send the log file to your vendor or Accusys tech support team to analyze. support@accusys.com.tw

4.1.1.2 RAIDGuard X main console



Function	Description		
Monitoring Buttons	Add controller into RAIDGuard X (for DAS only)		
	Remove controller from RAIDGuard X		
Management Buttons	Create array in the RAID system		
	Delete array in the RAID system		
	Email to set email notification		
	Preference	Drive Lag Proof	Enable/ Disable
		NCQ mode	Enable/ Disable
		SMART Mode	Enable/ Disable
		Beeper	Enable/ Disable
		Equalization	Enable/ Disable
		Cache	of controller and drives can be enable/disable
		MISC	for controller Time setup
	Option	Slicing	an existing array for multiple slices
		LUN Map	setup for multiple slices
		Expansion	with new drive into an array
		Migration	between different RAID level
		Snapshot	for backup data in a particular time
Health Center		for check array status	
	Unlock Drives	from locked mode	

4.1.2 Adding Controller

RAIDGuardX can manage the RAID controller locally or remotely via intranet access.

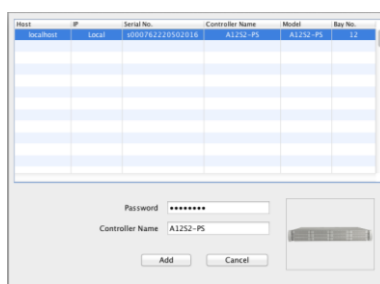
Two configurations to add RAID controller into RAIDGuardX Client.

- 1) DAS - Click icon **Add Controller** in the main page of RAIDGuardX Client locally.
- 2) SAN - Clicking **Manually Add Controller** in controller tab to add remotely.

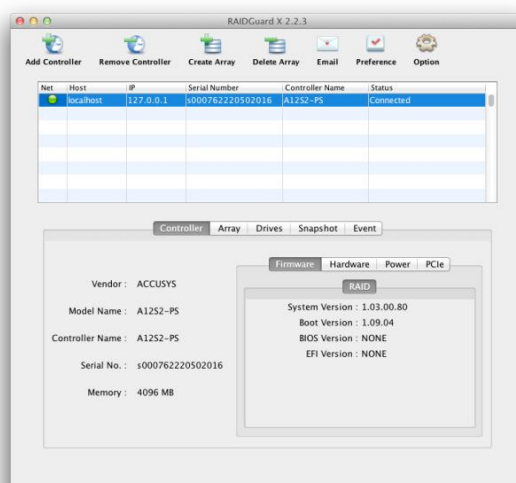
Following steps for add controller in detail;

(1) DAS – add controller locally

1. Click **Add Controller** to display a list of available controllers on local and network.
2. Click on a controller and enter password, default is 00000000 (8 zeros). (you can assign a name to the controller for remark)



3. Click **Add** to main page.



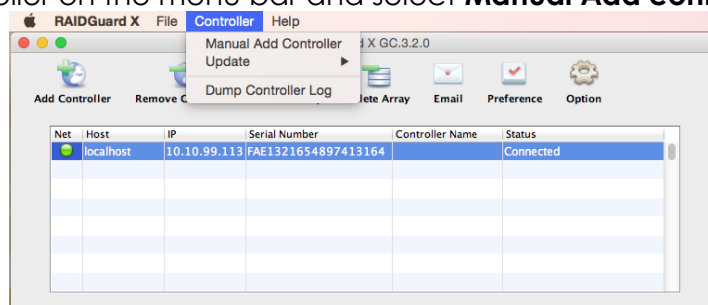
Note

To change the controller password, refer to Section MISC.

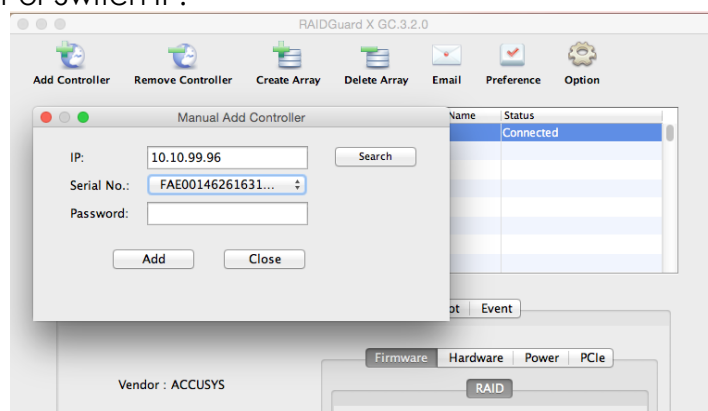
(2) SAN – add controller remotely

In a SAN connection, you can manually add controller via network.

1. Click on Controller on the menu bar and select **Manual Add controller**.



2. Enter the Server or Switch IP.



3. Click **Search** and wait for the Serial Number to populate.
4. Type the password (default is 00000000) for the controller.
5. Click **Add** to finish adding the controller.

Note

To remove a controller from RAIDGuardX list, select a controller and then click the **Remove Controller** button to remove the controller from the table. When the popup window appears, select **Yes**.

4.1.3 Planning your RAID

Before create RAID, it is a good idea to become familiar with the variety of configurations, or schemes, that are available for the ExaSAN RAID storage. This section describes these schemes and illustrates how each RAID level is applied.

RAID Level	Description	Capacity
RAID 0	Striping, the fastest and most	Total of all drives

	efficient array type but offers no fault-tolerance	
RAID 1	Mirroring, All disks have the same data	Total of one drive
RAID 5	Block-level striping with distributed parity, one disk fault tolerant	Total of all drives minus one drive
RAID 6	Block-level striping with double distributed parity, two disks fault tolerant	Total of all drives minus two drives
RAID 0+1	Combines the advantage of R0 and R1, provides optimal speed and reliability	One-half the total capacity of drives (Sum of RAID 1 member sets)

When configuring RAID, you may take the follow items into consideration:

1. Are you using a DAS or SAN environment?
2. Do you currently have more than one RAID or JBOD?
3. Which is more important, transfer speed or data security? One or two disk fault tolerance?
4. Do you need multiple volume or single volume on your RAID systems?
5. Do you have to consider the metadata volume for SAN software?
6. Do you consider using Global spare drives?
7. The number of disk drives used determines the speed of the RAID created. Take into account the desired speed when configuring RAID.

4.1.4 Creating an Array

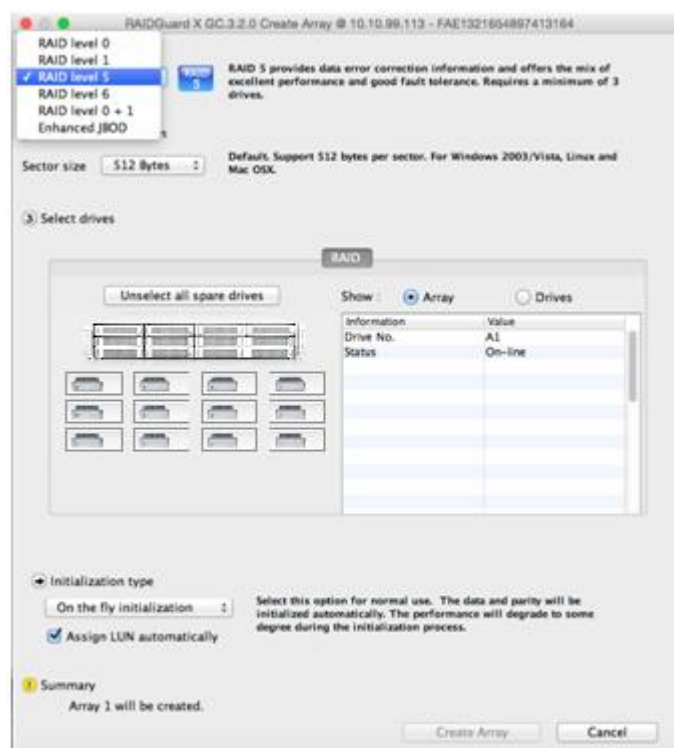
When the RAID controller is first configured, an array needs to be set up. This array tells the controller how many disks to use and what their function should be.

Follow the steps below to create an array:

1. Select the RAID level from the drop down menu. Available levels are: 0, 1, 5, 6, 0+1 and JBOD.

Note

Each RAID level has a minimum disk requirement. This is shown in the information to the right of the drop down list. For example, RAID 5 requires at least 3 drives.

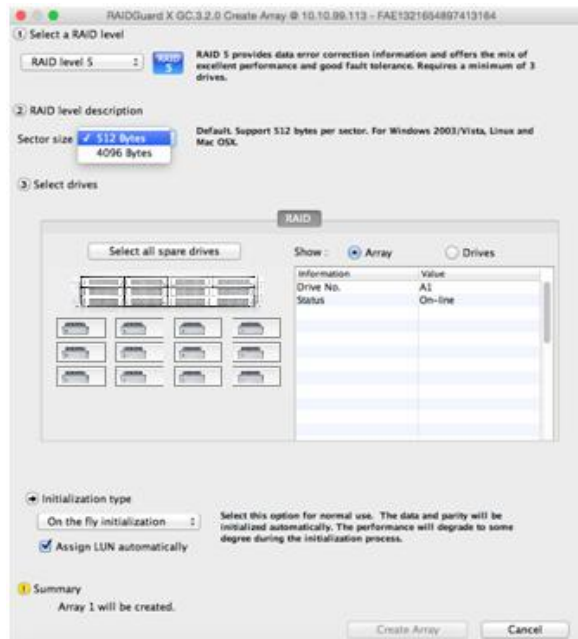


Note

Details on the RAID levels are in **Chapter 5 RAID Overview**.

2. Select the stripe size from the drop down menu. Available stripe sizes are: 8-256KB. The greater the stripe size, the faster the I/O output for each drive. This speeds up disk access.
3. Select the sector size from the drop down menu. Available sector sizes are 512 bytes (default) and 4096 bytes. The sector size 4096 bytes is only supported by Windows XP,

and over 2 Terabyte function is used. For other OSs, please select 512 bytes (default).



- Click on the drives to be added to the array. You can also click on **Select all spare drivers**.

Note

Unselected drives will be set to Hot (Global) spare drive. If a drive failure, spare drive will start to rebuild automatically.

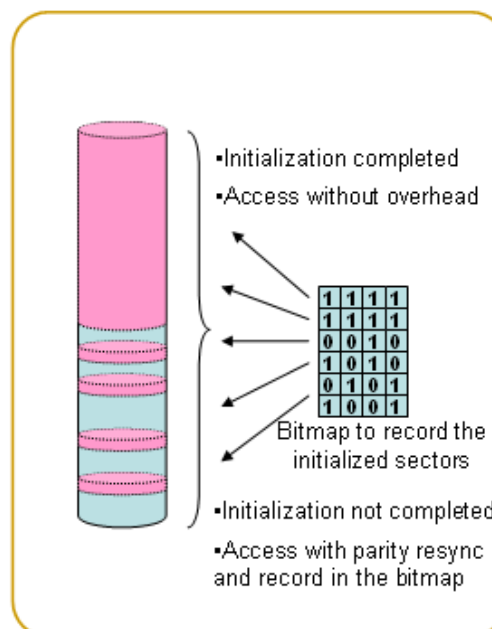


Optional: From the drop down menu, select either **On-the-fly initialization** or **Performance evaluation**.

On-the-fly initialization – ExaSAN RAID systems record the initialized sectors in the bitmap. All sectors are initialized only once. The entire initialization process will be completed faster and the performance will be better during the initialization.

During on-the-fly initialization, 65-75% of the full speed (of a created RAID) is still available. You can still use the RAID system during the RAID initialization.

Select this option (default) to ensure the completeness of the array. If this option is selected, it will recalculate the disk parity and data organization (how it is arranged). The amount of time required for the initialization process varies depending on the disk volume.



Performance evaluation – Select to evaluate the performance of the target array. Data and parity are not initialized. (No data protection when this mode is on).

Note

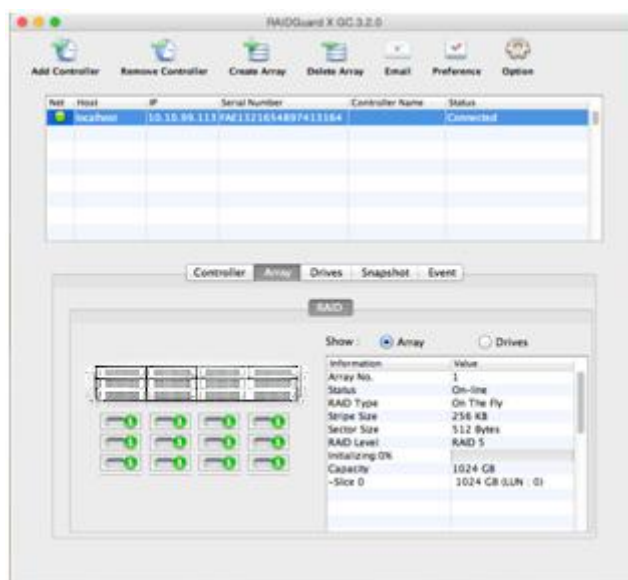
Once you click **Create Array** and you have selected On-the-fly initialization, you will see the initializing % on the Main screen.

You will be able to use and configure the array immediately if it is created using On-the-fly initialization. However, the RAID performance of the array will be slightly lower than usual before the initialization is complete.

5. Assign LUN automatically

Check this box to automatically assign a LUN. You may choose to assign LUN manually under **Options**. However, you will not be able to use the RAID volume until it has been assigned a LUN.

6. Click **Create Array** to complete the process.



Array initializing percentage

After the array has been created, the Main screen displays the newly created array with an array number. The array initialization progress is also displayed.

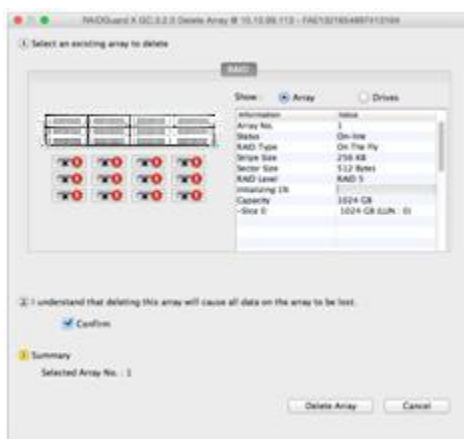
Arrays are assigned numbers in the order they are created. For example, the first array created is labeled with the "1" icon; the second array created is labeled with the "2" icon, and so forth.

Note

The ExaSAN RAID controller can support up to maximum of 4 arrays per RAID controller

Delete an Array

1. Click on the drives containing the array to be deleted.
2. Check the **Confirm** box. Click **Delete Array** to complete the process.



Caution

When you delete an array, all data on the hard disk drives will be lost.

4.1.5 Email Notification

It may be necessary for network administrators to receive e-mails in the event of errors, alerts, and changes to the RAID array. These alerts can be e-mailed to a maximum of 20 e-mail addresses.

Mailing List

Enter the e-mail address(es) of people to receive controller error reports.

Click **Remove** to delete e-mail addresses from the list.

Click **Send Test Email** to check that the e-mail is working.

SMTP Setting

Mail Server Name – Enter the address of the mail server.

From Email Address – Enter the e-mail address of the mail server.

SMTP Server – requires authentication for user name and password

Check this box if your mail server requires a user name and password.

SMTP POST event

Check this box if wish to create a log for error events.

Note

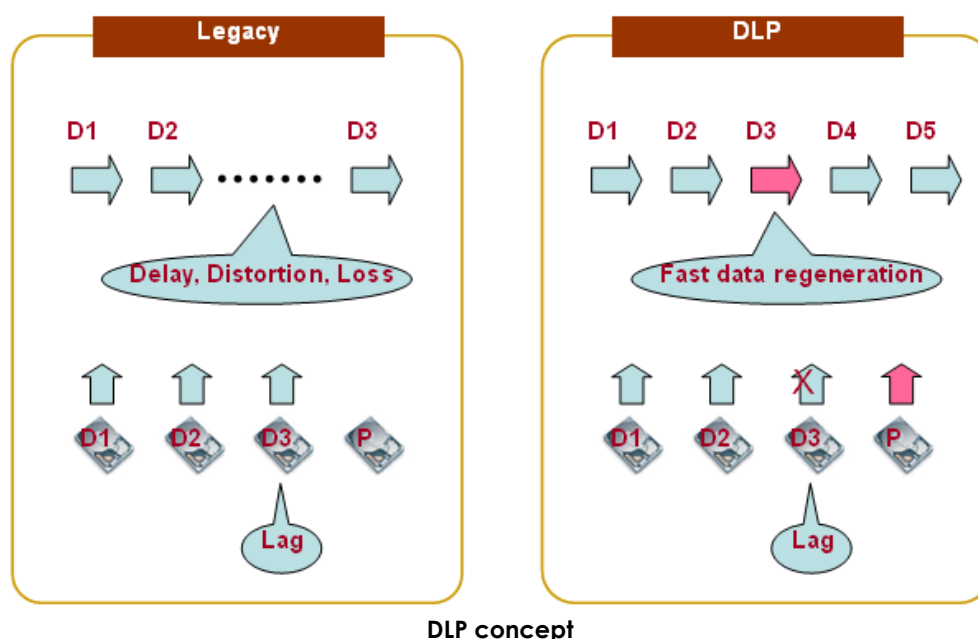
1. Ask your systems administrator for SMTP Server details.
2. Not support outbound SMTP mail service, e.g. Gmail, Hotmail, Yahoo.
3. Contact to tech support for more detail.

The screenshot shows a configuration window for email notifications. The 'Mailing List' section contains a list of email addresses, with 'amy_chan@accusys.com.tw' currently listed. Below the list are 'Remove' and 'Send Test Email' buttons. The 'SMTP Setting' section includes fields for 'Mail Server Name' (ms.accusys.com.tw) and 'From Email Address' (amy_chan@accusys.com.tw). There are two checked checkboxes: 'SMTP Server - requires authentication for user name and password' and 'SMTP POST event'. Below these are fields for 'User Name' (amy_chan) and 'Password' (masked with dots). At the bottom are 'OK' and 'Cancel' buttons.

4.1.6 Preference

4.1.6.1 Disk Lag Proof Mode

This feature ensures the stability and continuity of the RAID performance. In RAID 5 and RAID 6, DLP prevents the aging or slow responds of a single hard disk from influencing the overall performance. The advantage of this feature will not be felt until some hard disks fail to perform well.



In the event of performance degradation or delay of a single drive due to aging, the ExaSAN RAID system reads both data and parity stripes concurrently. It bypasses the slow reads and returns data to the host with the regenerated data and to provide stabled performance based on the RAID parity.

Note

Although slow responds of some hard disks can be tolerated in DLP mode, you may use S.M.A.R.T. function to check the conditions of hard disks in an array and replace the faulty ones.

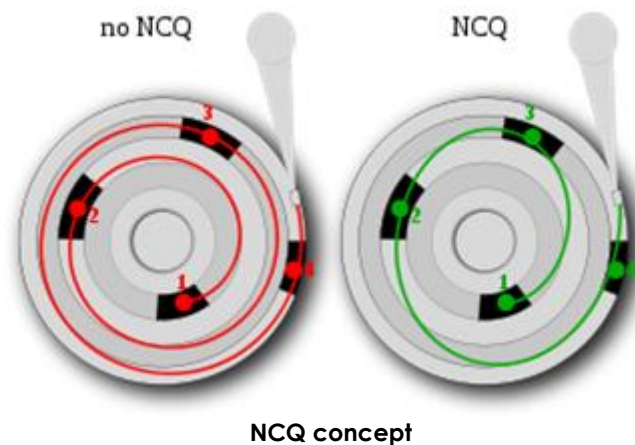
Note

This function does not support JBOD and NRAID.

4.1.6.2 NCQ

NCQ (Native Command Queuing) – This mode is designed for increasing disk drive access on SCSI and SATA disk drives. It can do this under certain situations by allowing the individual hard disk to internally optimize the order in which it executes the read and write requests it receives. This can reduce the amount of unnecessary drive head movement and resulting in better performance for work loads where multiple read/write requests and outstanding at the same time.

This situation most often occurs in server-type applications. However, the current technology actually slows down disk drive access in certain applications, such as video editing and sequential reads and writes, because of the added latency induced by NCQ.



The figure above illustrates the access sequence in NCQ and non-NCQ mode. The content sequences of the two hard disks are the same: 1, 2, 3, 4. However, the access sequence in NCQ mode may vary to improve the performance.

Note

If Equalization mode is enabled, NCQ is automatically turned off.

4.1.6.3 SMART Mode

S.M.A.R.T. is a monitoring system of disk drives to detect and report on various indicators of reliability, in the hope of anticipating failure. ExaSAN RAID system supports S.M.A.R.T. Once this function is selected, you can select the check interval from the drop-down list. Choose from 1 minute to 8 hours for SMART Mode to be active. The RAID controller will command each hard disk to perform S.M.A.R.T. according to the check interval selected. The check results will be shown as an Event message in the main menu.

When running S.M.A.R.T., the performance of the system will be slightly affected. The higher the check frequency, the more the sequential access is influenced. It is recommended to turn off S.M.A.R.T. if high frequency is needed. On the other hand, running S.M.A.R.T. constantly allows you to monitor the conditions of hard disks at any time.

Different hard disk models and brands will have different attributes in the reporting of S.M.A.R.T. Event message will show all messages generated by the hard disk.

The option of time to check disk's S.M.A.R.T are 1,15,30,60 minutes and 2,4,8 hours. We strongly suggest set to 8 hours. Frequently check time will reduce the life time of hard drives

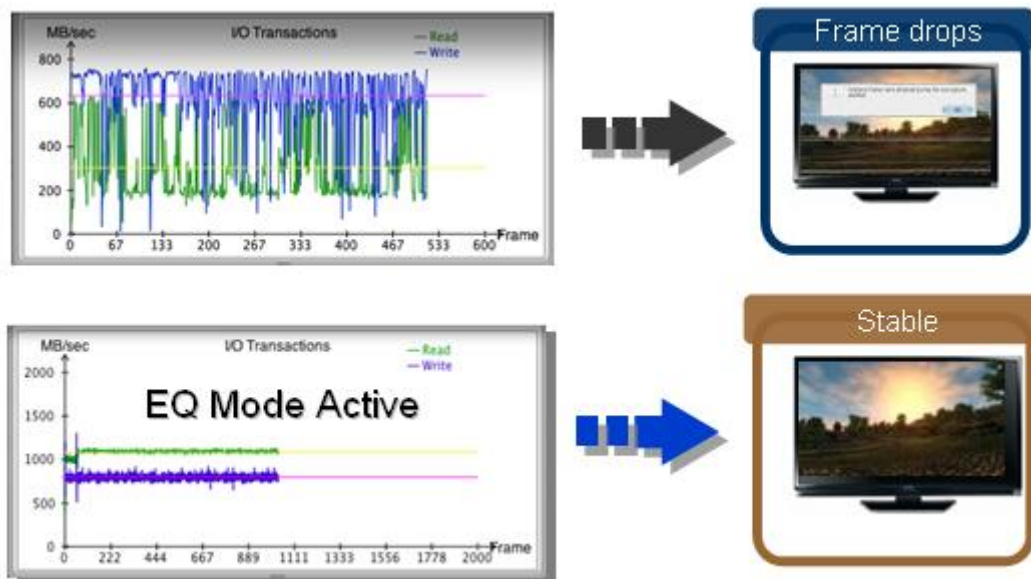
4.1.6.4 Beeper

Default Beeper option is enabled, the system will sound an audible alarm in the event of an error. Users can respond to the error promptly and carry out troubleshooting.

If the error indicated by the Beeper alarm has been resolved, you may uncheck the **Beeper** option.

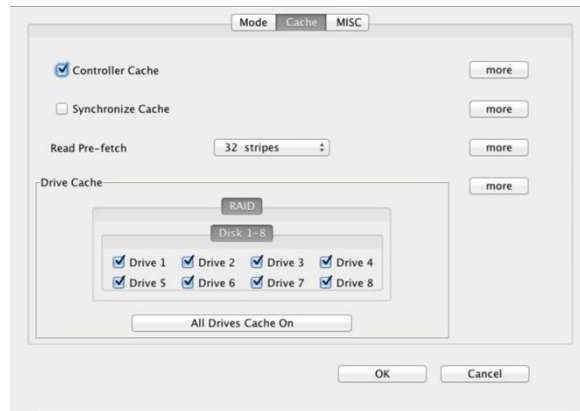
4.1.6.5 Equalization Mode

Regardless the transmission method, the data transmission speed cannot be guaranteed at all times. This feature allows the continuous I/Os to operate more smoothly and substantially reduce large fluctuations in efficiency during data transfer. For video editing, enable equalization to prevent video frame drops.



EQ mode concept

4.1.6.6 Cache



Controller Cache – Check this box to enable the controller cache. This speeds up the data transfer to and from the disks.

Caution

Data in cache may be erased if power down unexpected. Suggest using a UPS (uninterruptible power supply) to prevent this scenario.

Synchronize Cache – Check this box to enable cache synchronization with drives, to ensure all write data is correct, there is a frequently latency time within. For video capture, disable synchronization, because the video capture needs to be able to constantly write data to the RAID storage without long latency.

Read Pre-fetch – Identifies sequential access patterns and aggressively pre-fetches patterns into cache. From the drop down list, choose the number of stripes to pre-fetch. The default is 32; this is the recommended number.

Drive Cache – Choose which drives to cache. When more than one application accesses the database, the first applications cache needs to synchronize with the second. Each drive contains a built in write cache; checking these boxes chooses which drives to enable the caching on. Caching improves the efficiency and speed of data transfer.

All Drives Cache On/All Drives Cache Off – Click this button to enable/disable the caching on for all available drives.

4.1.6.7 MISC

The screenshot shows a configuration window titled 'MISC'. It has three tabs: 'Mode', 'Cache', and 'MISC'. The 'MISC' tab is selected. Inside the window, there are several fields: 'Controller Time' with a date/time picker showing '04/09/14 16:41 PM'; 'Password : (8-character format)' with a text input field; 'Password Confirmation' with another text input field; a checkbox labeled 'SNMP Notification' which is unchecked; a dropdown menu showing 'SNMPv2'; and an 'SNMP Target' text input field. At the bottom right, there are 'OK' and 'Cancel' buttons.

MSIC (Minimal Instruction Set Computer) has standard RAID controller CPU time settings. The time of each event is displayed in the event logs in Event message.

Controller Time – Click this button to see a calendar and to change the time and date of the controller.

Password – Enter the new controller password. The default password is 00000000 (8 zeros). Type another 8 characters.

Password Confirmation – Confirm the new controller password.

Note:

Do not lose your password. If it is lost, you will have to contact your agent or the Accusys Support Team.

SNMP Notification – Select **SNMPv1** or **SNMPv2** to send notifications for error conditions and possible problems to the SNMP servers. SNMP stands for Simple Network Management Protocol.

SNMP Target – Enter the IP address for sending the SNMP notifications.

Note:

The ExaSAN RAID system supports SNMP. It can set "System on IP networks" and allows servers to manage the system remotely.

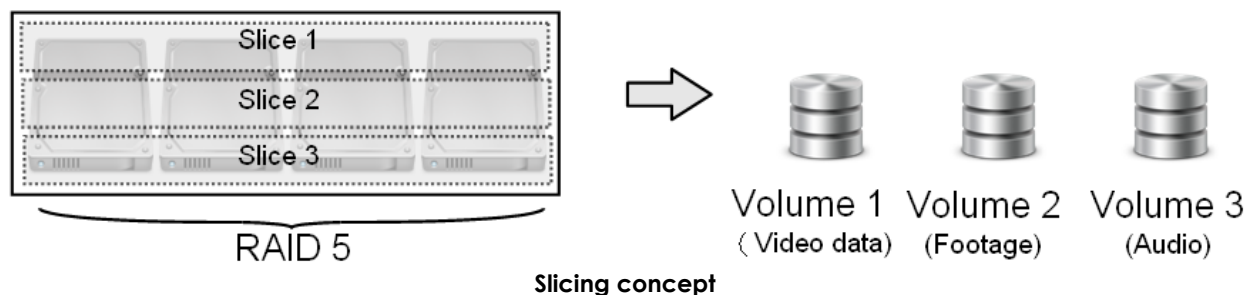
4.1.7 Option

The Options menu provides the methods for managing array. Click on the radio button for the required option, and then click **Next** to proceed.



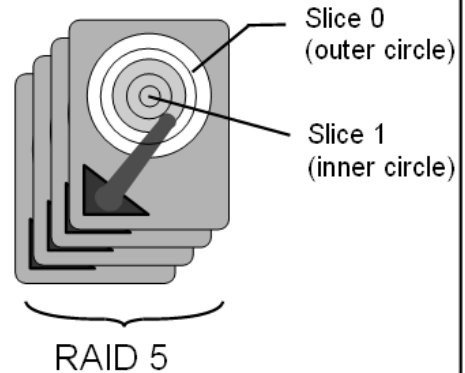
4.1.7.1 Slicing

ExaSAN RAID slicing overcomes the inherent design of how data is stored on an HDD or RAID system by subdividing a RAID array into segments, or slices. These slices are effective hardware partitions of all drives in the array. Each slice is a separate LUN and appears as a separate volume on the host computer. After slicing, the LUN map must be set for each slice.



Usage Scenario:

The access speed of the data stored in the outer circle is faster than that of the inner circle. Suppose that there are two slices in a hard drive. Slice 0 locates in the outer circles while Slice 1 the inner circle. In A/V making, you may store video data in Slice 0 and Audio data in random access in Slice 1.

**Note**

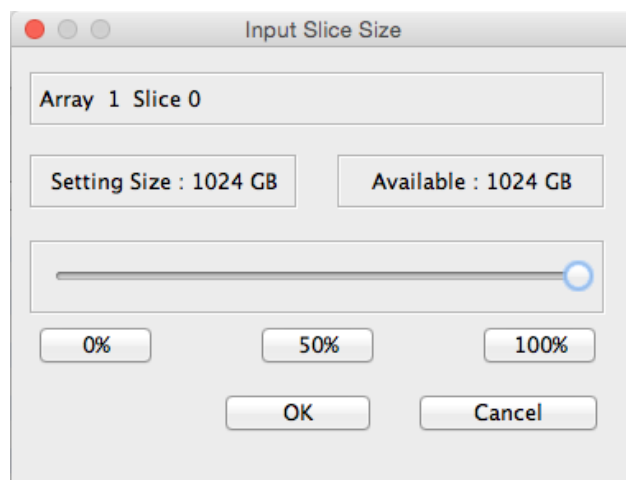
You can create up to 16 slices per array and 64 LUNs on the controller. The total number of unique arrays' slices cannot exceed 16.

Follow the steps below to select an array to slice or merge.

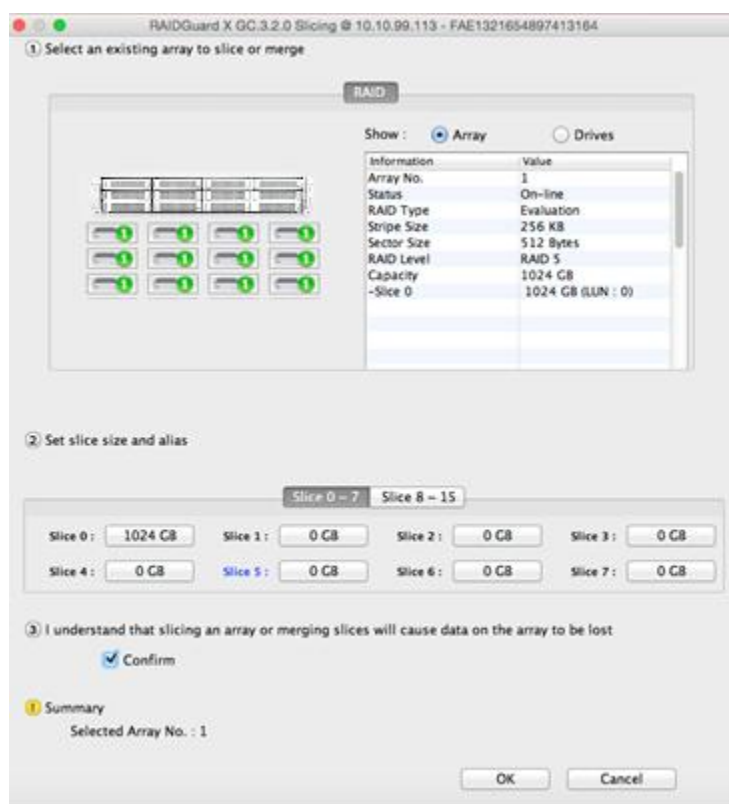
1. Select the array to slice or merge by clicking on a drive with an array number. The capacity is displayed. By default, Slice 0 contains the entire capacity of the disk array.
2. Click on Slice 0, and use the slide bar or buttons to free space for creating other slices. Click OK to confirm.



- Click on the slice to create, and use the slider bar or buttons to adjust the size. Click **OK** to confirm.



- Check the **Confirm** box and click **OK**.



Note

Slices must be adjusted in order; for example - Slice 0, 1, 2, etc.

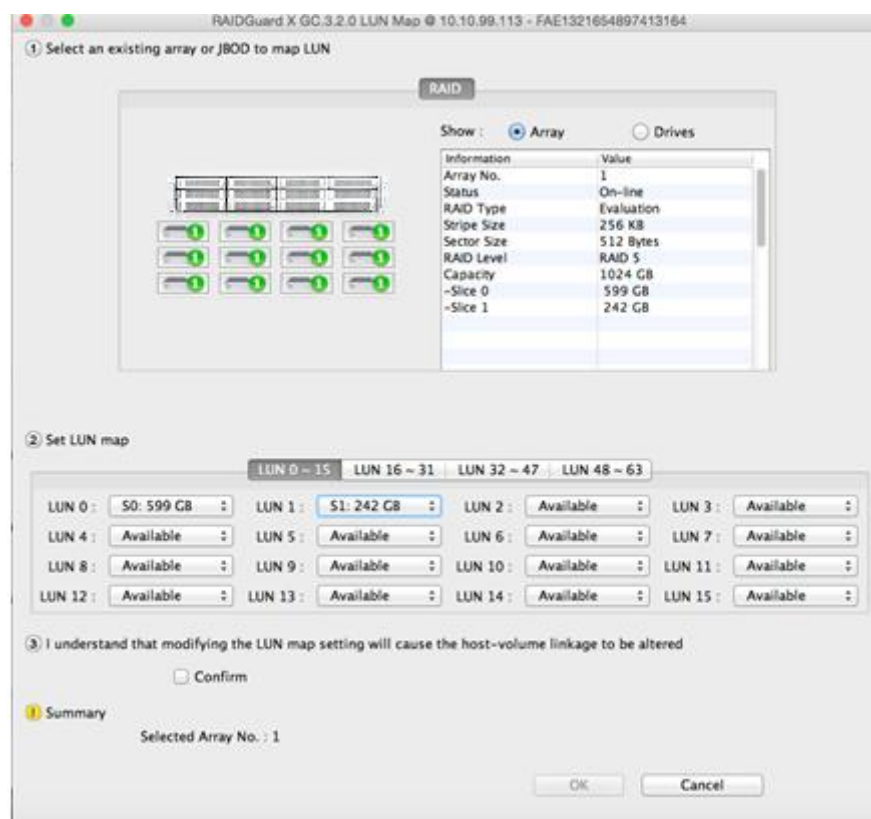
4.1.7.2 LUN Map

LUN, which stands for **Logical Unit Number**, is used to identify a logical unit in computer storage. When creating an array, you may select **Assign LUN automatically** to automatically assign a LUN to the new array. If **Assign LUN automatically** is not selected, you need to assign the LUN manually using LUN map. If the slice has been partitioned, you need to set its LUN Map.

Note

- One slice can only be assigned one LUN.
- The ExaSAN RAID controller supports up to 64 LUNs

1. Select the array to map by clicking on a drive with an array number.
2. Choose a LUN and from the drop down list select a slice to map to. Repeat for multiple LUNs.
3. Check the **Confirm** box and click **OK**.



4.1.7.3 Expansion

Expansion adds spare disks or new hard drives to an existing array. This is no need to create a new array or stop an array; you may add new disks online while the array is in use. Expansion can enlarge the capacity and frequency of an array. Although you may still access the array while doing Expansion, its performance is affected considerably. You may check the progress of Expansion in the main view.

Example:

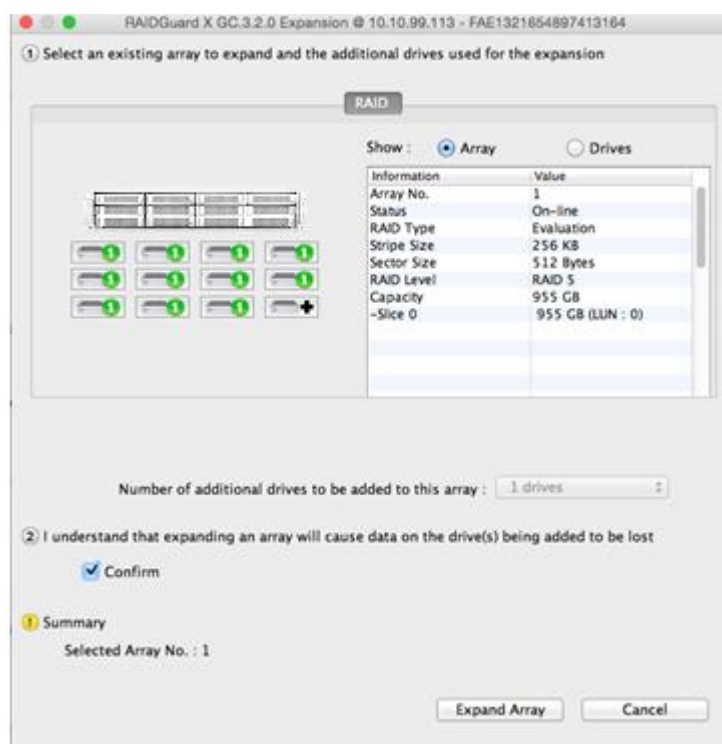


Note

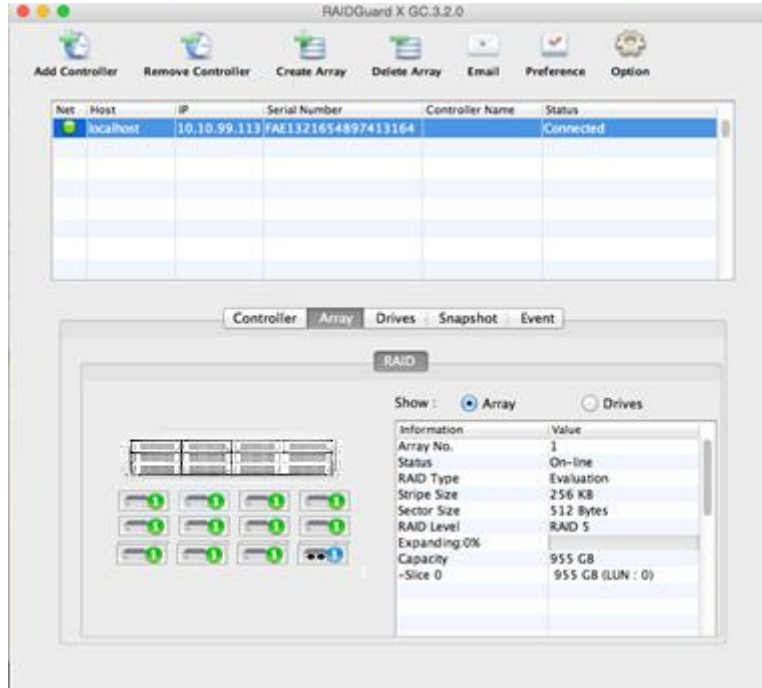
The new hard drive must larger than existing drives of array.

Follow the steps below to select an array to expand.

1. Select the array to add additional drives to, and select the number of drives to be added. A "+" sign appears above the drives to be added.
2. Check the **Confirm** box and click **Expand Array**.



3. The Main array information screen will indicate that the array is currently under expansion.



4.1.7.4 Migrations

Different from Expansion, which enlarges an array by adding hard drives to a fixed RAID level, Migration changes the RAID level of an array. It allows live changes to the RAID without the need to delete the array and rebuild. This can be useful when new drives have been added, and a new array type needs to be created.

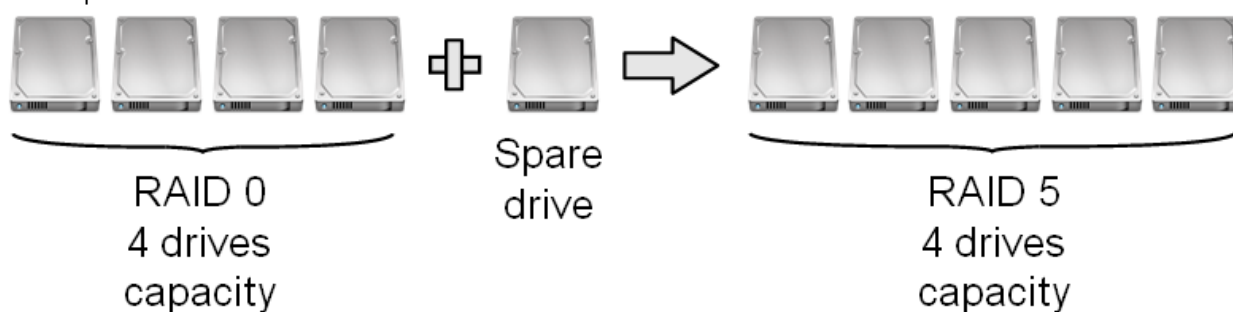
Example 1:

RAID 5 (12 drives) –Migrating→ RAID 0 (>11 drives)

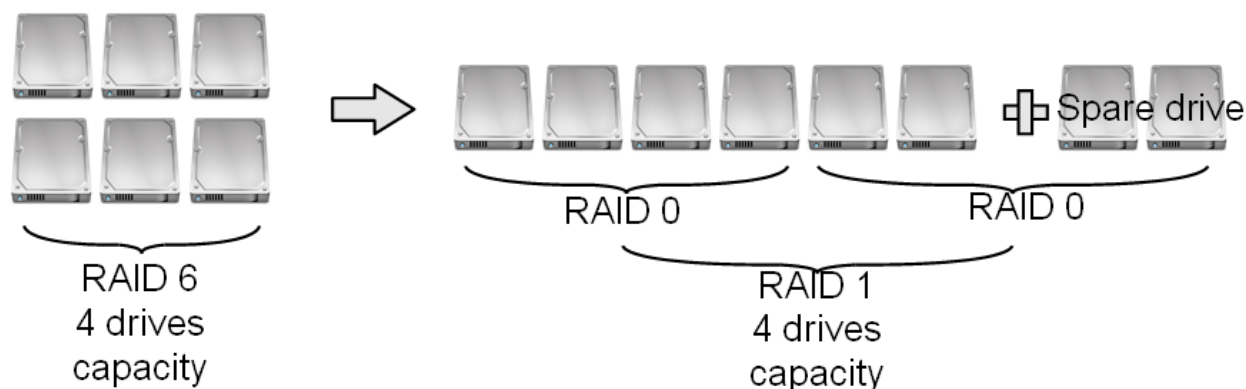
RAID 5 (12 drives) –Migrating→ RAID 6 (>13 drives)

RAID 5 (12 drives) –Migrating→ RAID 0+1 (>22 drives)

Example 2:



Example 3:



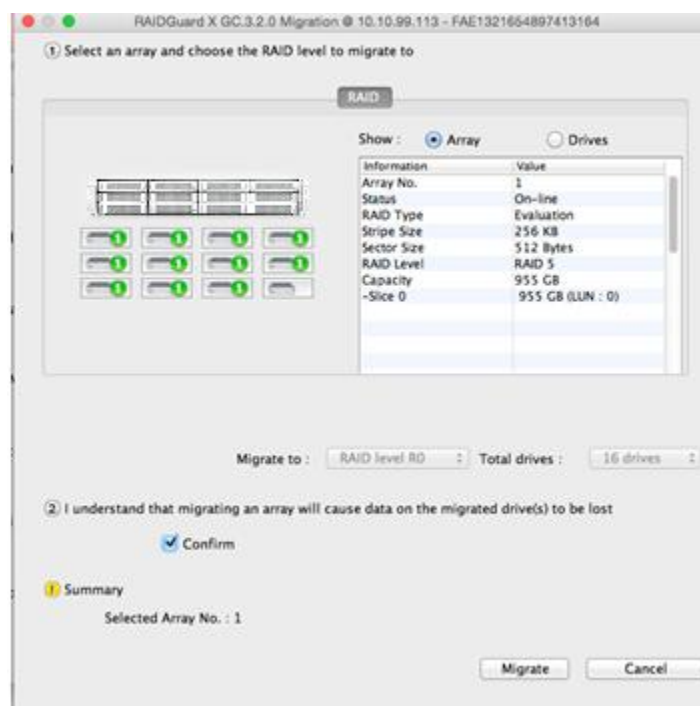
Note

The new hard drive must larger than existing drives of array.

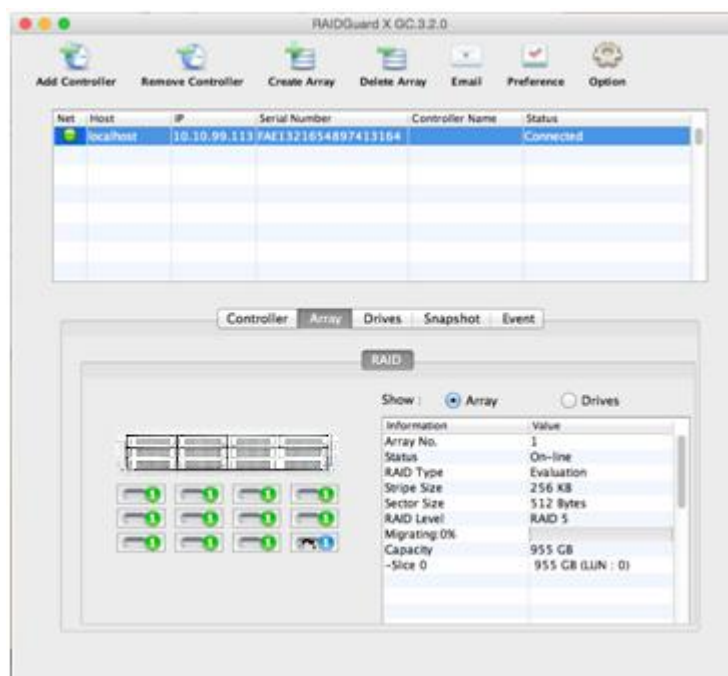
Follow the steps below to select an array to migrate. This changes the RAID level, such as from RAID 1 to RAID 5.

1. Select the array to migrate. From the drop down menu, select the RAID level to migrate to, and then select the total number of drives to include in the array. A "+" appears above the drive(s) to be added, and a "-" sign above the drive(s) to be removed.

2. Check the **Confirm** box and click **Migrate**.



3. The main array information screen will indicate that the array is currently migrating.



4.1.7.5 Snapshot

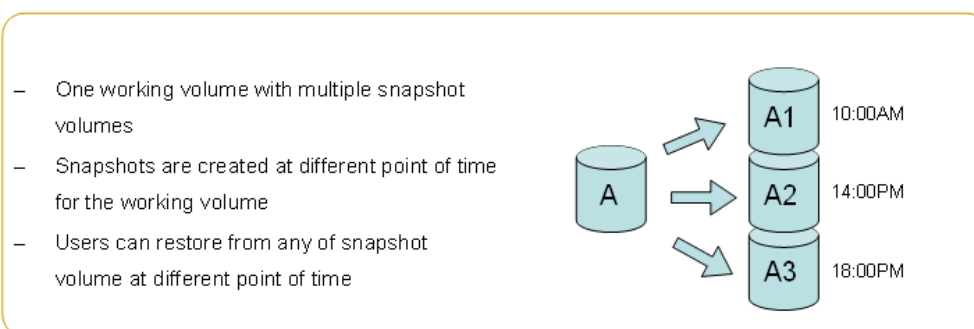
A snapshot is initialized with a data duplicate from a source to a target. The mirror snapshot is offered by the ExaSAN RAID controller.

Note

The source and target volume of the snapshot must be identical.

Before setting a snapshot, you need to set the slice in the array. The capacity of each slice and the number of shots should be in accordance with the space you need.

In the figure above, a snapshot can be created by splitting the source and target after the background sync is completed. The I/O mirroring is stopped, and the difference is under tracking in a bitmap table to support fast re-sync.



Create Shot

Create a snapshot of the selected slice. A maximum of 8 shots can be created. Once all shots have been used, older shots must be deleted before new ones can be taken.

1. Select the **Create Shot** function from the drop down menu.
2. Select the required shot by clicking on the Shot No. radio button. From the respective drop down menus, select the source volume and destination volume. Unavailable shots are grayed out.
3. Check the **Confirm** box and click **OK** to take a snapshot.

① Select a mirror snapshot function

Create shot Create a shot for an existing volume.

② Shot list

Shot No.	Source volume	Backup volume	Status
☒ Shot 1	Array 1 Slice 0	Array 1 Slice 0	Available.
☐ Shot 2	Array 1 Slice 0	Array 1 Slice 0	Available.
☐ Shot 3	Array 1 Slice 0	Array 1 Slice 0	Available.
☐ Shot 4	Array 1 Slice 0	Array 1 Slice 0	Available.
☐ Shot 5	Array 1 Slice 0	Array 1 Slice 0	Available.
☐ Shot 6	Array 1 Slice 0	Array 1 Slice 0	Available.
☐ Shot 7	Array 1 Slice 0	Array 1 Slice 0	Available.
☐ Shot 8	Array 1 Slice 0	Array 1 Slice 0	Available.

③ I understand that having snapshot could affect the overall performance.

☐ Confirm

Summary

OK Cancel

Delete Shot

Delete the selected shot.

1. Select the **Delete Shot** function from the drop down menu.
2. Select the required shot by clicking on the Shot No. radio button. From the respective drop down menus, select the source volume and destination volume. Unavailable shots are grayed out.
3. Check the **Confirm** box and click **OK** to delete a snapshot.

Split Shot

Split Now –

Split the selected shot or changes scheduling. The shot is split and read as two separate shots; therefore, it becomes two separate slices after being split.

1. Select the **Split Shot** function from the drop down menu.
2. Select the Split Now radio button.
3. Select the required shot by clicking on the Shot No. radio button. From the respective drop down menus, select the source volume and destination volume. Unavailable shots are grayed out.
4. Check the **Confirm** box and click **OK** to split the snapshot.

Split Scheduling –

Set any time to split shot.

1. Select the **Split Shot** function from the drop down menu.
2. Select the Split Scheduling radio button.
3. Click on the time and date button to set split time.
4. Select the required shot by clicking on the Shot No. radio button. From the respective drop down menus, select the source volume and destination volume. Unavailable shots are grayed out.
5. Check the **Confirm** box and click **OK** to split the snapshot.

Cancel Scheduling –

Cancel the split shot scheduling.

1. Select the **Split Shot** function from the drop down menu.
2. Select the Cancel Scheduling radio button.
3. Select the required shot by clicking on the Shot No. radio button. From the respective drop down menus, select the source volume and destination volume. Unavailable shots are grayed out.
4. Check the **Confirm** box and click **OK** to split the snapshot.

① Select a mirror snapshot function

Split shot : Split an existing shot or change scheduling.

☒ Split now

☐ Split scheduling 04/10/14 09:10 AM

☐ Cancel scheduling

② Shot list

Shot No.	Source volume	Backup volume	Status
☒ Shot 1	Array 1 Slice 1	Array 1 Slice 0	Sync.
☐ Shot 2	Array 1 Slice 0	Array 1 Slice 0	Available.
☐ Shot 3	Array 1 Slice 0	Array 1 Slice 0	Available.
☐ Shot 4	Array 1 Slice 0	Array 1 Slice 0	Available.
☐ Shot 5	Array 1 Slice 0	Array 1 Slice 0	Available.
☐ Shot 6	Array 1 Slice 0	Array 1 Slice 0	Available.
☐ Shot 7	Array 1 Slice 0	Array 1 Slice 0	Available.
☐ Shot 8	Array 1 Slice 0	Array 1 Slice 0	Available.

③ I understand that having snapshot could affect the overall performance.

☐ Confirm

④ Summary

OK Cancel

Resynchronize Shot

Resynchronize the selected shot. This function can speed up mirroring for previous snapshots.

1. Select the **Resynchronize shot** function from the drop down menu.
2. Select the required shot by clicking on the Shot No. radio button. You can only select split shot for resynchronization.
3. Check the **Confirm** box and click **OK** to split the snapshot.

Note

1. The destination volume must be equal or larger in size than the source volume.
2. The source volume and the destination volume can be on different arrays.
3. The destination volume must NOT be mapped to a LUN.
4. A shot will not be deleted if the details of the array change. The only way to delete a shot is using the Delete Shot function under Snapshot.

4.1.7.6 Health Center

To ensure the accuracy of the RAID parity data, ExaSAN RAID controller offers Background checking and “Rebuild parity data”. During checking or rebuilding parity, the performance of the array will be affected. You may check the progress of in the Main view or in the Health Center.

Follow the steps below to select an array to verify, rebuild, or condition.

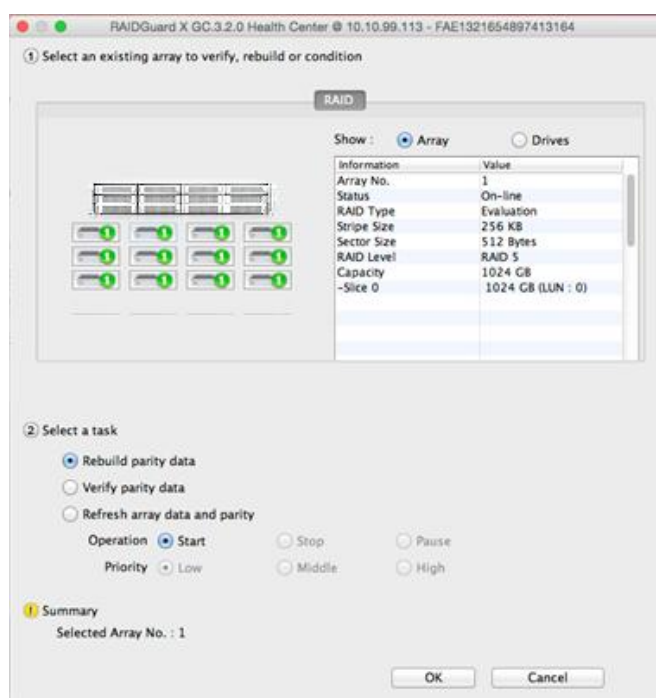
1. Select the Array to verify, rebuild, or condition.
2. Click the radio button to:

Rebuild the parity data – Rebuilding parity on an array uses the data on the array to create new parity data, no repair problems with the data.

Verify the parity data – Verify that the data is free of errors.

Refresh array data and parity – Select the priority between Low, Med., or High. This process scans, rewrites, and scrubs bad data conditions caused by excessive vibration during drive I/Os, or data degradation caused by Adjacent Track Interference (ATI).

3. Click OK to start the operation.



4. The main array information screen will indicate that the array is undergoing rebuilding, verification, or refreshing.

4.1.7.7 Unlock Drives

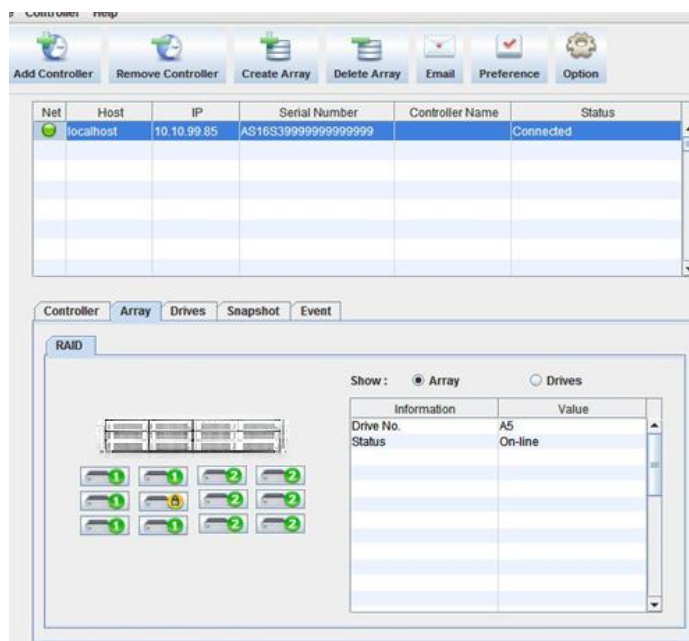
The RAID controller may lock abnormal drives in an array. You may unlock these drives and rejoin them in an array. Drives may be locked with one of two conditions:

1. If a drive returns data too slowly, the controller determines the drive is experiencing a fault and executes Drive Drop. When you unlock the drive, it will be added directly to the array if there has not been drive access during the locked period. Otherwise, the controller will rebuild parity data on the drive when the drive is online.

Note

If "Drive Drop" occurs, it is recommended to use S.M.A.R.T. to check the drive condition and replace it if necessary.

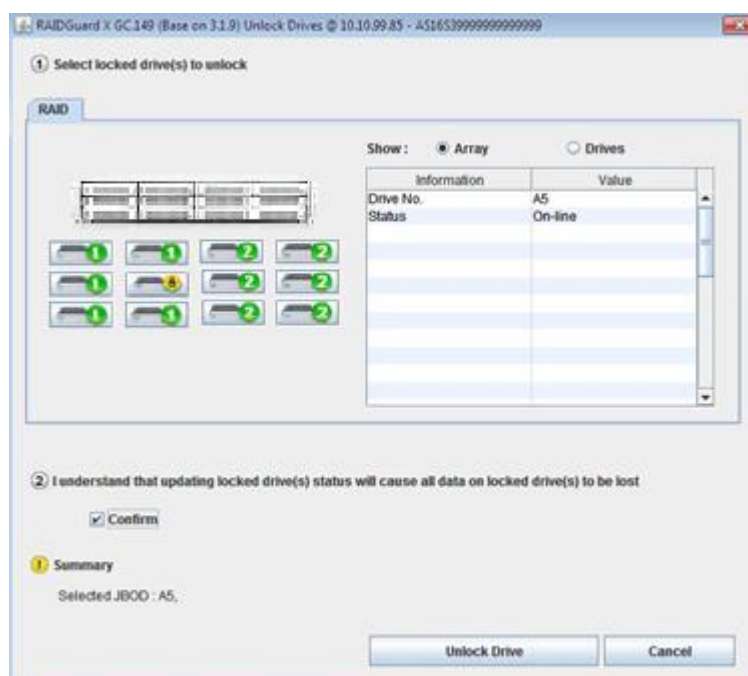
2. When a drive has been used by ExaSAN RAID system, that drive will be locked if insert it to another RAID system.



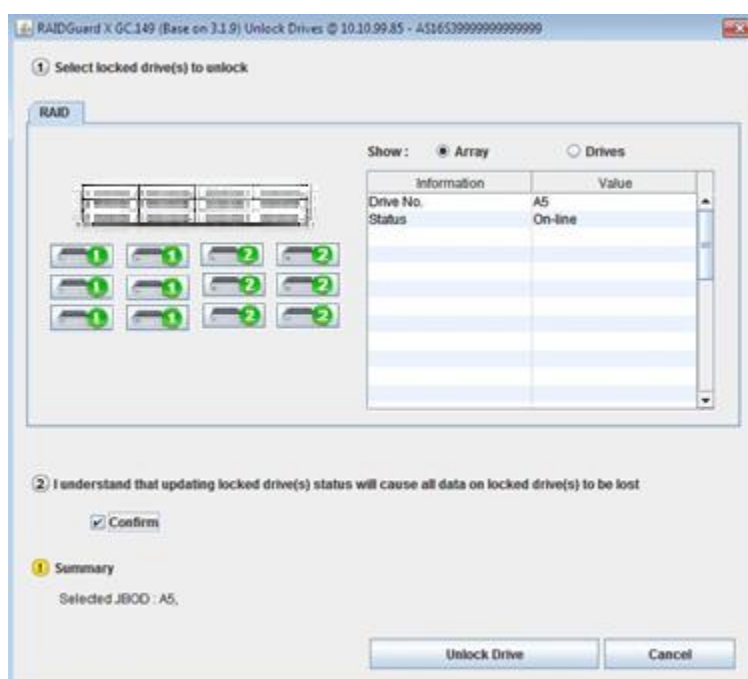
Drive 5 Locked

Follow the steps below to select a drive to unlock.

1. Select the drive with the  icon. It will change to the  icon.



2. Check the **Confirm** box and click **Unlock Drive**.



4.1.8 Updating the ExaSAN RAID system Firmware

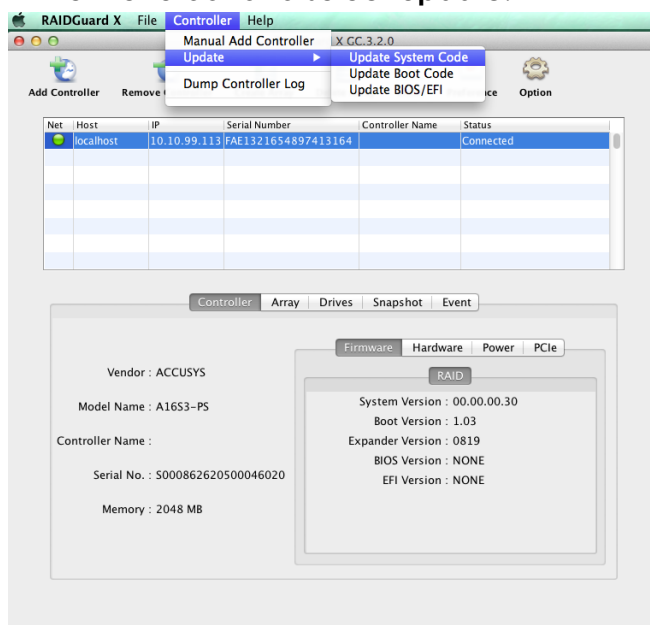
Follow the steps in this section to update the firmware of your ExaSAN RAID system. Use caution to prevent a loss of power to the ExaSAN RAID system during this process.

4.1.8.1 Preparing the Firmware Update Files

1. Note the current System Version, Boot Version, BIOS Version and EFI version on your ExaSAN RAID system. These can be viewed in the Main menu firmware tab.
2. Visit the website below:
3. <http://www.accusys.com.tw/support/download.htm>, Under the "Download" link, you can click the folder to look for your ExaSAN system model
4. Proceed to the next section to update the firmware files.

4.1.8.2 Installing the Firmware Update Files

1. Select Controller in the Menu bar and select **Update**.



2. Update System Code, Boot Code, BIOS/EFI individually from the download path. During the update process, the RAID system will stop all data access.

Caution

Do NOT interrupt or stop updates that are in progress.

3. Once the updates are complete, make sure to power off the ExaSAN RAID system and host using the proper power down sequence and then power on, again following the proper power on sequence.

5. RAID Overview

5. RAID Overview

This chapter gives an overview of RAID storage system within the context of recommended setting of ExaSAN based SAN environment to provide fast, shared storage to client computers.

5.1 How RAID Works

RAID, or Redundant Array of Independent Disks, is a data-storage technology that spreads data across multiple drives. This technology provides several benefits over a single large hard disk, including:

- Data redundancy for protection and availability
- Higher performance as a result of reading or writing on several drives simultaneously
- Scalability for expansion of storage

The ExaSAN-family RAID systems use a hardware controller, which manages up to 48 HDDs. By segmenting and writing or reading data on multiple drives simultaneously, the RAID controller achieves fast and highly efficient storage and access.

The way the controller stores and retrieves data on the RAID system is determined by the RAID level and storage method you choose. For ExaSAN applications, the recommended setting is mainly RAID 1 and RAID 5, which will be discussed in details later in this chapter.

Once you have defined a group of drive modules as a RAID set, the controller groups those drives into "logical disks." On the ExaSAN RAID system, each logical disk appears to the client system as one Logical Unit (LUN), regardless of the number of actual drives in that logical unit.

5.2 Data Storage Methods

The controller stores and retrieves data on a RAID system using techniques such as "data striping", "data mirroring", and "data parity".

5.2.1 Data Striping

Multiple hard disk drives in a RAID group, referred to as a "set" or "array," are divided (partitioned) into stripes. The controller spreads stripes across the disks in alternating sections on each drive.

In data-intensive environments such as digital video editing, performance is optimized by writing data across small stripes, so that each record spans all drives. This method ensures that access to large records is very fast because data is transferred in parallel across multiple drives.

5.2.2 Data Mirroring

To mirror data, the RAID controller duplicates all data on two different disks. One disk is the primary; the other is the mirrored disk. The primary and mirrored disks are

synchronized; that is, anything written to one disk is also written to the other. Mirrored data is very secure because if one disk fails, the data is available from the other disk.

5.2.3 Data Parity

The controller can generate “parity” for the ability to protect and rebuild data. Parity protects stored information without requiring data mirroring. When data is protected by parity, it is still available if a drive fails. Parity-protected data is reconstructed using the parity formula. You can remove and replace a failed disk (known as “hot swapping”), and the controller then rebuilds the data using the information on the remaining drives.

5.3 RAID Levels

The ExaSAN RAID system supports several RAID levels and configurations. Each level has a different architecture and provides varying degrees of performance and fault tolerance. Each level has characteristics to achieve maximum performance or redundancy depending on the data environment.

5.3.1 RAID 0: Striping

RAID level 0, striping only, is the fastest and most efficient array type, but offer no fault-tolerance. Any drive failure destroys the data in the array.

5.3.2 RAID 1: Mirroring

RAID level 1, mirroring, has been used for Metadata LUN because of its simplicity and high levels of reliability and availability. Mirroring uses two drives, each drive stores identical data. RAID 1 provides very high data reliability and improved performance for read-intensive applications, but this level has a high capacity cost because it retains a full copy of your data on each drive in mirror set.

In a RAID 1 configuration, the capacity of the smallest drive is the maximum storage area.

5.3.3 RAID 5: Independent data disks with distributed parity

By distributing the parity information across all drives in a set, RAID level 5 achieves high reliability and data availability. It also offers the highest read data transaction rate of all levels along with a medium write rate. The low ratio of ECC (Error Correction Code) parity disks to data disks offers hardware efficiency. Disk failure has a moderate impact on the total transfer rate.

5.3.4 RAID 6: Independent data disks with two Independent parity schemes

RAID level 6 extends RAID level 5 by adding an additional parity block; thus it uses block-level striping with two parity blocks distributed across all member disks. RAID 6 does not have a performance penalty for read operations, but it does have a performance penalty on write operations because of the overhead associated with parity calculations.

RAID 6 is no more space inefficient than RAID 5 with a hot spare drive when used with a small number of drives, but as arrays become bigger and have more drives the loss in storage capacity becomes less important and the probability of data loss is greater. RAID 6 provides protection against data loss during an array rebuild, when a second drive is lost, a bad block read is encountered, or when a human operator accidentally removes and replaces the wrong disk drive when attempting to replace a failed drive.

5.3.5 RAID 0+1: Striped set with Mirroring

RAID 0+1 combines the advantages of RAID 0 and RAID 1 with none of the disadvantages. RAID 0+1 creates a mirror of the primary striped set. RAID 0+1 provides optimal speed and reliability.

Appendices

Appendix A: FAQs

1. Q: Why is my disk LED status RED?

A: This is likely caused by a faulty hard drive. Replace the faulty drive as soon as possible to protect your data.

2. Q: After an array has been created in RAIDGuard X, but the host does not find the array volume.

A: Please check the LUN Mapping to ensure the array volume has been corrected mapped to a LUN. If this is not the case, try restarting the system and it will be automatically recognized. Once LUN is assigned, you can perform formatting and mounting.

3. Q: What does the eight LEDs on the Host Bus Adapter mean?

A: The eight LED indicate the connection status of the HBA (The LED closest to the bracket does not light up.) If you have properly connected the HBA to the A12S2-PS RAID controller, one set of 4 consecutive LEDs will be constantly lit. The second set of 4 consecutive LEDs indicates the type of PCIe connection - flashing LEDs indicate a PCIe Gen1 connection, while steady LEDs indicate a PCIe Gen2 connection.

4. Q: Why doesn't the performance reach the expected levels while testing the A12S2-PS? Why isn't the performance steady enough?

A: If the performance is unsteady or not achieving the expected level, in many cases, the HDD is the cause. Since the A12S2-PS is a highly efficient product, there is extreme demand placed on each HDD. As a result, it is strongly recommended to use the newest enterprise level HDD.

5. Q: Why is the A12S2-PS generating warning beeps?

A: Please check the LED indicators on the A12S2-PS front panel against the appropriate user documentation for your particular storage system. Follow the instructions to launch RAIDGuard X to obtain Event Log information for further analysis.

6. Q: If "Find no RAID card" appears in a Windows host server, how can this be resolved?

A: Please make sure the PCIe cable is properly connected to the back of the host server and the RAID system. Check the Device Manager in Windows to confirm that the correct driver has been installed for the HBA. If both conditions have been verified and the problem persists, please use the "Manually Add Controller" option.

7. Q: On a MAC host, after entering the GUI and adding a controller, there is no device listed. How can this be resolved?

A: Please first confirm whether the hardware environment of the RAID system is functional. Also, ensure that the system drivers have been correctly installed. Next, go to "**Utilities > System Information> Software > Extensions**" and check whether Accusys6xxxx is listed. In order to confirm whether GUI Server Service is running on the system, Go to "Utilities > Activity Monitor" and check whether the program

name **DTRGuiSrv01** is under the program column. If the situation persists, please verify again that the hardware environment is not the source of the problem and reinstall using the MAC installer.

- 8. Q: My RAID system has an actual capacity of more than 2 TB, but in Windows XP and Windows 2000, it will only do a full format of less than 2 TB in capacity. How can this be resolved?**

A: Since Windows XP 32 bit and Windows 2000 does not support GPT, both can only continue to use MBR (Master Boot Record), which only supports up to 2TB in one volume. To see more than 2TB in a single volume in Windows XP or 2000, go to RAIDGuard X, select "**Create Array**" and set the sector size to 4096 bytes. By doing this, Windows XP and 2000 will be able to format an MBR volume greater than 2TB. However, if the sector size is set to 4096 bytes, it can lower the performance of the RAID.

- 9. Q: In Windows Vista and Windows 7, after having confirmed that the files on the installation CD have been completely installed, why does it still show "Find no RAID card"?**

A: Windows Vista and Windows 7 has a built-in ability to automatically reduce the potential of security breaches in the system. It does that by automatically enabling a feature called User Account Control (UAC). When UAC is enabled, the RAIDGuard X server can not detect the controller and thus displays the message "Find no RAID card." To resolve this, disable UAC and run RAIDGuard X server as "administrator".

Vista:

- a. Control Panel -> User accounts -> Change security settings -> Deselect "Use User Account Control (UAC) to help protect your computer."
- b. Restart the computer to turn off UAC.

Windows 7:

- a. Type "MsConfig" in Start Search to start System Configuration. Then go to Tools tab, select Change UAC settings, then click on Launch button.
- b. Slide the slider bar to the lowest value (towards Never Notify) with the description showing "Never notify me".
- c. Restart the computer to turn off UAC.

- 10. Q: When inserting the HDD into my A12S2-PS, why does RAIDGuard X show the HDD mode as Lock?**

A: The lock indicates that the HDD has been previous used in Accusys products and that it contains a portion of a RAID data. If the data can be deleted, you can unlock the HDD.

- 11. Q: I have connected the cable to the Host server, but I can't see "new disk drive" on the host device management.**

A: There are three possibilities:

- a. Please ensure the QSFP cable is connected securely. You should be able to hear a "click" sound when you connect the cable to the connector.

- b. Please check the jumper switch on the HBA. When the switch is in the "On" position, the HBA card is enabled for storage mode for the A12S2-PS. In the "1" position, the HBA is enabled for switch mode for the SW04/08.
- c. Please check if the installer and the driver have been installed correctly. If the installation has completed and the error still persists, it may be a compatibility issue. Send an email to support@accusys.com.tw and briefly describe the problem. Be sure to include the driver error code, the motherboard (or host) model name and the OS. We will contact you to assist you in resolving the issue.

Appendix B: Icons

ICON	Description
Main Menu Icons	
	RAIDGuard X Server icon – The icon that is on the desktop and notification area
	Add / Delete a controller – Select the controller to administer
	Create / Delete an array – Change the arrays within the RAID system.
	Preferences – Activate alarms, mode settings, cache settings, password, and controller card time.
	Email – Set the addresses to send e-mail alerts to.
	Option – Set the Slice, expansion, migration, health, disk locking, LUNs, and take a snapshot of the array.
Option Menu Icons	
	Slicing an array into several parts
	LUN Map – Assign a LUN to a slice
	Expand an array to larger capacity by adding disks
	Migrate from one RAID level to another target RAID level
	Snapshot – Create a backup of a slice
	Health Center – Repair / Maintain arrays
	Unlock – Fix locked drives
Application Icons	
	Drive icon
	Drive belongs to Array 1, 2, 3, 4
	A drive being deleted in Array 1, 2, 3, 4
	A JBOD drive being selected
	JBOD being deleted
	A drive being selected
	An offline drive
	A locked drive

	A drive being selected for expansion / migration / rebuilding
	A transition drive state during the array 1, 2, 3, 4, migration
	A transition drive state during the array 1, 2, 3, 4, expansion
	A transition drive state during the array 1, 2, 3, 4, auto-rebuild
	RAID Levels

Appendix C: Customer Service and Support

C.1 System Log

When you contact us for technical support, our support staff might ask for your system log file for troubleshooting purpose.

Go to the ExaSAN switch GUI, select the "Event Management" icon. Follow instructions there to download the log file.

C.2 Contact Us

For customer services and technical support, locate an Accusys office near you from the link below:

<http://www.accusys.com.tw/about/contact.htm>

Or, you may email us at support@accusys.com.tw

C.3 Our Website

Please visit our websites frequently for the most up-to-date product and support information.

All countries: www.accusys.com.tw

Korea: <http://accusys.co.kr>

CAUTION

RISK OF EXPLOSION IF BATTERY IS REPLACED BY AN INCORRECT TYPE.

DISPOSE OF USED BATTERIES ACCORDING TO THE INSTRUCTIONS